

Pope in Croatia, pleads for peace

ZAGREB (Agencies) — Pope John Paul made an impassioned plea for peace in the Balkans on his arrival in Croatia on Saturday, urging warring Croats, Serbs and Muslims to forego extreme nationalism. The pontiff called himself "a defenceless pilgrim of reconciliation" and, in a message of solidarity, expressed sorrow at having to cancel a visit to war-torn Sarajevo which he described as "a martyr city." The Pope spoke moments after arriving in Croatia for a 24-hour visit, the first by a Pope to the turbulent region of former Yugoslavia. He looked frail five months after suffering a severe leg fracture, moving with the help of a cane. Across the city church bells rang out as the pontiff descended at Zagreb's Pleso airport to be greeted by a host of religious and political dignitaries. Dispensing with his traditional gesture of kneeling to kiss the tarmac, the Pope was presented with a piece of Croatian soil to kiss in a wooden cup. Among those there to greet him were the archbishop of Zagreb and primate of Croatia, Monsignor Franjo Kuharić, President Franjo Tudjman, senior officials in the Catholic Church in Croatia and other public figures.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
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Amnesty lauds King Hussein's stands

AMMAN (Petra) — Amnesty International/Amman Branch on Saturday lauded His Majesty King Hussein's stands and policies. Amnesty International said in a press release the King's stands expressed in his speeches were "the best and strongest in the field of human rights." It said that human rights organisations around the world had lauded the King's stands on human rights issues and his stance on democracy in Jordan. The organisation said that for the first time in the Arab World Amnesty International has contributed to organising lectures on human rights at the Police Academy in Jordan and at an advanced security course. It said that the organisation's executive committee in Jordan, headed by Secretary General Tawfiq Abu Baker, had met with Interior Minister Salameh Hammad and presented to him an integrated programme aimed at spreading awareness of human rights. The programme, launched this week, includes delivering lectures on Jordan's stand on human rights as expressed in speeches by King Hussein, the Jordanian Constitution and the National Charter.

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More than 220 people suffer food poisoning in Salt

AMMAN (Petra) — More than 220 people were poisoned after eating at a local restaurant in Salt city, west of Amman. Director of Al Hussein Hospital in Salt Abdul Aziz Mahmoud said Saturday that all the food poisoning victims, suffering vomiting and fever, were admitted to hospital over the last two days. Dr. Mahmoud said he expected the number to rise.

Settler shoots Palestinian in Halhoul

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — A female Israeli settler shot and wounded a Palestinian man on Saturday in Halhoul near Hebron in the West Bank, military sources said. The woman settler opened fire on the Palestinian as she drove through Halhoul with her husband. She was arrested at an army roadblock near Hebron. The victim was wounded in the head and was taken to hospital in Hebron. There were no immediate details about his condition.

New school year starts in Algeria

ALGIERS (AFP) — About eight million youngsters returned to school after the long summer break Saturday with none of the trouble or unrest forecast by Algeria's extreme Islamic fundamentalist group, the Armed Islamic Group (GIA). Police remained extremely discreet around and in front of schools and colleges in Algiers on Saturday. The number of young girls or women teachers wearing the Islamic veil did not appear greater than last year and mixed groups of youngsters were seen chatting at the schools and universities. Last week the GIA laid down four conditions for a "normal beginning" to the school year in schools for six to 15-year-olds: women teachers and pubescent girls should wear the Islamic veil, classes should be single-sex and girls should be banned from music and gymnastics classes (see page 2).

Ghali offers Kashmir mediation

NEW DELHI (AFP) — U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali offered Friday to broker a dialogue between India and Pakistan to resolve their long-running dispute over Kashmir. Officials said the United Nations chief's offer came as New Delhi promised to send troops to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations in Rwanda, where a demographic crisis has followed the deaths of upwards of 500,000 people in three months of ethnic carnage. "I am ready to be honest broker to help in the resumption of direct talks between the two countries," Dr. Ghali told a news conference after a meeting here with Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

N. Korea, U.S. start talks in Pyongyang

TOKYO (AFP) — U.S. and North Korean officials started expert-level discussions in Pyongyang late Saturday as part of a deal on ending the standoff sparked by North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons programme, the Korean Central News Agency said. The talks will cover the possibility of opening representative offices in each other's capitals as the first step towards establishing diplomatic ties, said the Pyongyang-based news agency monitored here.

Assad: Syria ready to move

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad reiterated demands on Saturday for full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights and said Syria will meet the requirements of peace.

"Syria realises the importance of a peace which ensures full withdrawal. It also realises that peace had objective requirements and will meet objective requirements that are agreed on," Mr. Assad told parliament. The new People's Assembly was elected at the end of August. Abdul Qadir Qaddoura of the ruling Baath Party was on Saturday re-elected speaker of the 250-member assembly for the next four years.

Mr. Qaddoura, who was also speaker of the last assembly, is a member of the regional command of the Baath Party. He got 241 votes out of 249 who cast their ballots. Seven gave white invalid ballots and one opposed Mr. Qaddoura's election.

Candidates of the National Progressive Front, grouping parties of the Baath-led ruling coalition, got 167 seats of the new assembly which was elected on Aug. 24 and 25. Independent candidates who included several wealthy businessmen secured the remaining 83 seats.

President Assad's policy speech before the parliament outlined Syria's economic, political and cultural policies.

Israeli Labour deputies want shifts on Golan and Palestinian state

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Deputies from Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's ruling Labour Party on Saturday called for fundamental changes to the party's charter on the Golan Heights and the creation of a Palestinian state.

Eight members of Knesset (MKs), including Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, said they wanted the Labour Party to drop its commitment to maintaining Israeli "sovereignty" over the strategic plateau, seized from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war.

Their move comes after Mr. Rabin's offer to Syria of a "marginal" withdrawal from the Golan over three years divided his party on Friday.

Labour Party hardliners or "hawks" opposed to concessions to Syria have been drawing up a parliamentary bill requiring a 70 per cent majority in the house and a 65 per cent majority in a "national referendum" before Israel hands back the Golan.

But the eight "doves" also said the party's opposition to the creation of an independent Palestinian state was no longer valid.

The party should work towards Israel renouncing sovereignty over the Jordan Valley and land north of the Dead Sea which is claimed by Palestinians, they added.

They proposed that Jerusalem should be divided into separate administrative districts — a suggestion made by Mr. Beilin last year which caused uproar among both leftwing and right-wing MKs.

The charter was drawn up before Israel's 1992 general elections.

As well as Mr. Beilin, the eight MPs include Abraham Burg, Yael Dayan and Haim Ramon, who is considered as a candidate for the post of prime minister after the next general elections scheduled for two years' time.

Nissim Zivli, party secretary general, said Saturday he had received the proposals and they would be studied by Labour Party leaders, along with proposals from the party "hawks."

The party's central committee will meet in the next few weeks to discuss the proposals, Mr. Zivli told Israeli radio.

Ahmad Tibi, advisor to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, said the group of "doves" were "more sensible than the others and have taken a step further forward than other Labour Party MPs."

"They must be taken seriously," Dr. Tibi said.

Thousands of Israeli Golan settlers, convinced Israel has already promised to withdraw from the Heights, planned a mass rally on Saturday to protest Israel's peace offer to Syria.

The demonstrators, among them members of the Labour Party, say the government is

risking Israel's security.

"My concern is that the steps today are creating facts on the ground which endanger everything and facilitate the process of coming down from the Golan Heights in a very short period," said MK Avigdor Kahalane, who leads the lobby in parliament against a withdrawal from the Golan.

Other MKs draw maps of what they say are Israel's promises to the Syrians.

"Israel has agreed to withdraw to the cliff line," Ariel Sharon, a former army general and defence minister and a member of the main opposition Likud party, told army radio on Saturday.

The cliff line is the western edge of the plateau parallel to the pre-1967 border between Israel and Syria.

Mr. Sharon says Israel is willing to come down from the plateau altogether following a three-year adjustment period.

But the speculation bears little resemblance to the proposals described by Israeli leaders.

Mr. Rabin made public parts of Israel's offer for the first time this week. He said Israel would pull back slightly in the first stage followed by a three-year trial normalisation period.

The position was quickly rejected by Syria.

Israel has risked Syria by refusing to say publicly how far it would ultimately pull

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Sayeh pays tribute to Jordan ahead of moving to Jerusalem

AMMAN (J.T.) — Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, a former minister and speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), Saturday sent a message to His Majesty King Hussein expressing deep appreciation of King Hussein's constant concern over the Palestine question and assistance to the Palestinian people.

In the message, which he sent prior to his departure for the occupied territories to take up permanent residence there, Sheikh Sayeh reaffirmed "the strong cohesion between the Jordanian and Palestinian people" and paid tribute to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for his efforts in the respect.

"As I pack to leave on my trip to Jerusalem, I would like to voice my deep appreciation and that of the Palestinian people for Jordan's endeavours in the course of its support for



Abdul Hamid Sayeh the Palestinian cause," Sheikh Sayeh said.

"As I leave for Palestine, I would like to express deep pride in your stand and voice appreciation of your noble feelings towards me personally over the years," he said.

"I will always remember my experience over the past years in Jordan, a country that offered safe haven to all Arabs and all

citizens an atmosphere marked with democracy," Sheikh Sayeh added.

Sheikh Sayeh said that the Crown Prince dedicated his efforts to promoting the educational and scientific development in Jordan and led the way towards achieving the aspired goals.

Sheikh Sayeh said the question of Jerusalem was still pending awaiting a solution, "but I believe that the road to Jerusalem will open and the Palestine issue will be solved in the spirit of Islam."

The Israeli occupation authorities have issued permission for Sheikh Sayeh to return to Jerusalem after a 27-year exile, family sources said. They said Sheikh Sayeh, who is in his mid-80s and suffering from health ailments, was awaiting a green signal from the

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Bilaterals and trilaterals resume tomorrow in Tiberias

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Israel will resume their bilateral meetings near Lake Tiberias on the Israeli side on Monday to follow up discussions of water, border, energy, environment, tourism and economic affairs, Dr. Fayed Tarawneh, head of the Jordanian negotiating team, said Saturday.

These and other issues which were already discussed at previous meetings near the

Dead Sea will be included on the agenda, Dr. Tarawneh said in a statement.

At the Tiberias meeting, Dr. Tarawneh said, the trilateral committee grouping Jordanian, Israeli and American officials will discuss the development of the Jordan Rift Valley which was debated at length by the three sides at a meeting held in Washington on Aug. 31.

The trilateral committee agreed at the Washington meeting to resume discussing the development of the Jordan Rift Valley at the Tiberias location, Dr. Tarawneh said.

The Jordanian side to the trilateral committee meeting includes Dr. Munther Haddadin, Dr. Awn Khasawneh, Dr. Hani Al Mulqi and Mr. Omar Rifai.

Self-rule authority names 'religious affairs minister'

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — The Palestinian self-rule government on Saturday appointed a religious affairs minister who would be in charge of Muslim holy places.

The new minister is Sheikh Hassan Tabboub, 70, a former head of Waqf that runs the Muslim holy sites in East Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Sheikh Tabboub participated Saturday in the weekly meeting of the self-rule government, the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). He said he will be in charge of Muslim holy places and mosques, but that his exact responsibilities still had to be defined.

"We are not seeking a confrontation with the Jordanians," said Sheikh Tabboub, head of the Islamic High Council, a group of clerics and politicians that looks out for Muslim interests in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza.

The Higher Islamic Council was established after the 1967 Middle East war to supervise Muslim affairs in the territories occupied by Israel.

Under the Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) self-rule agreement, Sheikh Tabboub's jurisdiction would be limited to Gaza and Jericho. But Palestinian self-rule may expand to the rest of the West Bank before the end of the year if general elections are held.

Sheikh Tabboub, an Islamic leader in Jerusalem, was sworn in by Mr. Arafat during the authority's meeting in Gaza. Intisar Al Wazir, the authority member in charge of social welfare, told reporters.

He is the 19th member of the authority, which Palestinians regard as a council of ministers. Five seats remain vacant.

Paris talks frozen

Talks on crucial foreign aid to support Palestinian self-rule broke down Friday in an

Israeli-Palestinian dispute over whether some of the funds could be used in East Jerusalem.

The conflict drew an angry rebuke from the World Bank, sponsor of the talks, which said the aid issue was too important to be "derailed by the two main parties."

The bank indicated it would try to resume the negotiations, but set no date for reconvening the delegations from 26 donor nations.

Israel, which insists on Jerusalem remaining as its "undivided capital" has objected to efforts by the PNA to undertake projects in East Jerusalem.

The World Bank, which has been coordinating the aid effort since last year, expressed regret at the breakdown, which it attributed to "the intrusion of bilateral political issues."

The bank's vice president for the Middle East and North Africa, Caio Koch-Weser, issued an unusually blunt statement voicing "deep disappointment the way things have evolved."

"I am sure that all of my donor colleagues who attended the meeting will echo this sentiment," he said. "If we are to move forward on the all important economic agenda, we cannot allow such meetings ... to be derailed by the two main parties bringing their political differences to the table."

A senior Palestinian delegate, Nabil Shaath, said only a few million dollars out of the Palestinians' \$160 million 1994 operating budget was proposed for projects within Jerusalem.

The main emphasis was on money for schools and health institutions, including hospitals which serve Palestinians from throughout the West Bank and Gaza, he said.

"Had we planned army barracks or a police station or a state capital, that would be a problem," Dr. Shaath told a news conference. "But repairing schools and hospit-

als."

Dr. Shaath said Israel's firm stance on Jerusalem "prevented the meeting from taking place today. It has blown apart the opportunity to sit with donors and discuss how much funds can be accelerated and help the peace process."

"I don't want to be alarmist," Dr. Shaath added. "But if the funds do not come... the result will be disastrous for the peace process. We don't want myopia among the donors waiting until a Rwanda situation, or a Somalia situation or a Bosnia situation happens on the Palestinian side."

Israeli Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, interviewed on Israel's Arabic-language television, said the Palestinians, under their self-rule agreement with Israel, were not supposed to raise the issue of Jerusalem until 1996.

"Those who bring to the agenda this sensitive issue now, which is against the agreement, are sabotaging the efforts of first and foremost of the Palestinian authority," he said. "If Jerusalem gets on the agenda then there is no agenda and no agreement and no donation and this is a very large obstacle."

DFLP assails PNA

Meanwhile opponents of Palestinian self-rule on Friday charged that the PNA had broken one of its commitments in the autonomous Gaza Strip.

Tayseer Khaled, a politburo member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), condemned the authority's activities which he said could provoke "internal dissension."

He said Palestinian police "prevented the Democratic Front in Gaza from holding its third congress by surrounding the hall where this congress was to take place."

Autonomy elections set for November

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — Palestinians will hold their first elections to choose the new autonomy council on Nov. 1, Palestinian officials said Saturday.

"The most important decision we took today was to proceed with elections on Nov. 1," Palestinian Social Affairs Minister Intisar Al Wazir said after the weekly Palestinian National Authority (PNA) meeting here.

The authority has ordered its election committee to start preparations by opening offices in Gaza and the West Bank to register voters and print up ballot papers, officials said.

The officials also said they intended to contact donor countries to resolve a dispute with Israel over the funding of projects in Arab East Jerusalem, the subject which led to the failure of a conference in Paris this week. (see separate story)

"We have taken a decision to approve the recommendations of the elections committee to start preparations for elections within a period of no longer than three months," said Yasser Abed Rabbo, an authority member in charge of culture.

Saeed Erekat, another authority member who heads a special committee preparing for elections, said PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has ordered that offices for registering population and voters be opened immediately.

Dr. Erekat said the authority intends to open election offices in all major cities in the West Bank and Gaza including East Jerusalem.

Under the peace deal signed in Washington in September last year, Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreed to hold general elections in

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Vatican, liberals both claim victory on abortion row

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Vatican and liberal states at the U.N. population conference both claimed victory Saturday after clearing a hurdle on abortion which had blocked progress on a plan to lower world birth rates.

The Vatican late Friday gave a guarded welcome to a compromise paragraph on abortion in the 113-page population plan as other delegates said a broad consensus had emerged.

The Holy See said it had succeeded in excluding abortion as a family planning method, while liberal countries like the United States and the Netherlands said unsafe abortion was now internationally recognised as a serious health problem.

Meanwhile Islamic states tried in the main committee to reopen debate on definitions of the family and other previously settled issues. Also a special committee had not ended a dispute on "sexual rights" despite meeting all night.

But the mood was brighter than in previous days when the Vatican was accused of hijacking the conference by forcing the abortion row to dominate the agenda since the forum began Monday.

Vatican delegation chief Renato Raffaele Martino said the Holy See had achieved a "big victory" because abortion had now clearly been excluded as a means of family planning.

The Vatican has led a campaign against the action plan, charging that parts of it condoned abortion, extramarital sex and homosexuality.

Its opposition was backed by Iran and other Islamic states at the start of the conference. An Iranian delegate said Saturday that Tehran had been in close contact with the Holy See since January ahead of the conference, even though the Vatican denied a "holly alliance."

But Muslim countries went on to agree an earlier com-

promise which was rejected by the Holy See, Central American countries and Malta.

The Vatican said although it does not endorse legal abortion "for moral reasons," it said it "endorses the need to provide quality medical care for the complications arising from abortion."

But it said it did not have "complete identification with the text" and "withholds its assent" until debate is complete on the other areas of the action plan where abortion is mentioned.

The change was described as a breakthrough by liberal countries.

"We've been able to put (the problem of unsafe abortion) on the table as a major public health concern," Nicolas Biegman, a delegate from the Netherlands who is a deputy chairman of the conference's main committee, said.

"It's completely new," Mr. Biegman said.

An estimated 200,000 women die every year from unsafe abortions.

The abortion row took a new twist Saturday when three American journalists associated with pro-life groups were detained and almost deported from Egypt, a U.S. congressman said.

They faced expulsion after someone at the conference late Friday falsely alleged one of them was linked to the murders of two doctors at abortion clinics in the United States, Congressman Christopher Smith said.

Mr. Smith, a pro-life supporter advising the U.S. delegation to the population forum, said the three were saved from expulsion only after U.S. Ambassador Edward Walker spoke to Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa.

A check with police in the United States had revealed that the accusations were totally false, Mr. Smith added.

Mr. Musa said the three had been detained due to an error. He did not elaborate but said it was up to U.N. security to comment on the issue.

The incident represents a new and "vicious twist" to the abortion controversy dogging the conference, Mr. Smith said.

The three got in trouble as a result of "very false and absolutely slanderous comments" which Egyptian police said were made by one or more members of a non-government organisation here, he added.

He said police refused to reveal the identity of those denouncing the three journalists whom he identified as Keith Tucci, Sharon Turner and David Haddon.

The three were first held in detention at a U.N. security compound in the conference complex until after midnight Friday and then taken to the international airport where they were kept in a hotel.

All three had their credentials removed but have now been allowed to return to work by U.N. security, he said.

Delegates at the conference were bogged down Saturday over how to define the concept of the family in a plan aimed at limiting world population growth.

The delegates in a public session stumbled over two paragraphs in the plan's chapter which deals with "the family, its roles, composition and structure."

Most objections were against paragraph 5.3 in which the words "marriage, other unions" were deleted from the phrase "marriage, other unions and families."

Delegates from Latin America and Africa objected to the deletion of the word "marriage" from the text.

Rights of migrants and refugees in focus, page 12

Conference takes up fight against female circumcision

CAIRO (AFP) — The U.N. population conference has taken up the fight against the traditional practice of female circumcision, which leaves two million young girls scarred for life each year.

The conference action plan states that governments should take urgent measures to end female genital mutilation and set up prevention services for men and women to deter them from carrying on the tradition.

The campaign against female circumcision — the removal of some or most of the external genitalia — was first launched in 1952 before the U.N. Human Rights Commission.

But 40 years on, it has made little progress.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that 85 to 115 million women have undergone genital mutilation, principally in Africa.

There are three types of circumcision, WHO says. The simplest, the clitoridectomy, is the removal of the clitoris, while the second, excision, involves the removal of all or part of the labia minora and part of the labia majora.

The third, called infibulation, adds to that the sewing together of the sides of the vulva, leaving only a tiny hole through which urine and menstrual blood can flow.

East African women are the worst affected. In Djibouti and Somalia, where infibulation is the rule, excision is carried out on 98 per cent of women.

In Eritrea and Ethiopia 90 per cent of women are circumcised — regardless of whether they are Christian, Muslim or Falasha (Jewish).

Likewise in Egypt, half of women are circumcised whatever their religion, disproving common misconceptions that mutilation is confined to any religion in particular.

It is carried out without anaesthetic and often by unqualified people, with rudimentary instruments and no hygiene. Apart from terrible pain, the risks of haemorrhaging and infection are high.

The operation makes sexual relations very painful and it can play a large part in maternal and infant deaths during childbirth. Because it prolongs labour, it can lead to the baby being suffocated.

Action programmes launched by WHO — which forbids its medical staff to carry out the operation — and non-governmental organisations have had limited effect so far.

"A voluntary policy is not enough, and social practices like this can only evolve with education," said Jeanne Dina Nfon Priso, a Cameroun doctor.

"Tradition has to be preserved because it is part of identity, but not traditions like this which run counter to women's health and basic rights," she said.

Often a rite of passage, circumcision is above all a way of controlling female sexual desire, which it deliberately represses.

A woman who has undergone infibulation is "opened" with a knife or piece of glass the first time her husband has sex with her, so her virginity is guaranteed for him.

For Dr. Nfon Priso, one simple principle lies behind circumcision. "The women are there to give pleasure to the man, but the idea that she too has a right to pleasure remains taboo," she says.

The nine-day U.N. International Conference on Population and Development groups delegations from 182 countries and runs until Sept. 13.



LEGHARI IN IRAN: Pakistani President, accompanied by Iranian President Ali Akbar Rafsanjani, at improving bilateral relations (AFP photo)

Sudanese exile describes 'torture sessions'

CAIRO (R) — A Sudanese exile, who said he had been in a torture chamber in Sudan, has condemned the Khartoum government for its human rights record and its absence from a U.N. population conference.

"This conference addresses contemporary issues, how can we join in when our government has taken us back to the dark ages?" said Azza Al Tigali of the Sudanese Women's Forum, an Egypt-based non-governmental organisation.

Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Lebanon are boycotting the U.N. International Conference for Population and Development in Cairo, saying the issues for discussion were non-Islamic.

A young man, limping heavily, described the torture he said he had suffered.

"I was taken in by six military men who blindfolded me and interrogated me for hours. Then they took me into another room and whipped me. Then I was taken to yet another room and given electric shocks," said a trembling Zein Al Abedeen.

"I was arrested again. They tied my wrists to the blades of a fan and rotated it while they whipped me. Finally, they cut the rope and let me drop 1.5 metres to the ground. I fainted," he added.

"The last time I was arrested they told me I would not live through it. They sat me in a chair and flicked a switch. The last thing I felt was that I was flying. Then I woke up in hospital. The people of my town complained and were heard by Amnesty International who put pressure on the military to release me. Now I'm here," Mr. Abedeen said.

Mr. Abedeen, a member of the London-based Sudanese Association for the Victims of Torture, urged the conference and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to intervene in Sudan.

Sudan, which has been ruled by a military junta since a bloodless coup in 1989, has been branded a "terrorist" state by the United States and human rights groups have condemned it.

India sees 'jealous' rival behind Somalia attacks

NEW DELHI (R) — India's army chief said on Saturday his country's peacekeeping contingent in Somalia may have been attacked at the behest of an unidentified jealous rival which did not want the soldiers to do well.

General Bipin Chandra Joshi told state-owned Doordarshan Television that the performance of the 5,400 Indians serving with U.N. peacekeeping forces in Somalia had been widely praised.

"Our success had caused jealousies," Gen. Joshi said.

"We believe those who were jealous of our performance of attacking us directly or getting snipers to do the job."

He said the intention of the rival, whom he did not identify, was to provoke Indian troops into retaliating. "They wanted us to do something rash to put us into difficulties."

Gen. Joshi's remarks came a week after Indian newspapers quoted unidentified officials as saying they suspected Pakistan's involvement in two attacks last month, in which seven troops and three army doctors were killed.

"Till now Indian and Pakistani contingents have been working smoothly but the recent incidents have generated suspicions... that some elements are trying to discourage the Indians," the Times of India said on Sept. 2.

"While no one is willing to go on record there are dark hints about a possible Pakistani connection to the events," it said.

Indian officials say initial reports that Somalia warlord General Farah Aided was involved in the attacks on the Indians were probably wrong.

"One of the reasons why Indians were considered by the U.N. secretary general for the role was that Aided was considered to be friendly towards Indians," former top diplomat Jyotindra Nath Dixit told Doordarshan.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali on Friday praised India's peacekeeping performance, saying he wanted them to go to Rwanda next.

Suspected Somali guerrillas killed several Pakistani troops at the start of their U.N. mission there. The Pakistanis retaliated, causing several Somali casualties.

Clerides ready for talks

NICOSIA (AFP) — Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides said on Saturday he was willing to resume U.N.-led talks with breakaway Turkish-Cypriot leaders on solving the problem of the divided island.

In a message to U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali, Mr. Clerides said he was ready to hold "intensive negotiations" provided the Turkish-Cypriots agree to negotiate a "solution based on a single sovereign and independent state."

Mr. Clerides said he would be prepared to negotiate with Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash in U.N.-sponsored talks on "all the aspects of the Cyprus problem."

Turkey has occupied the northern third of Cyprus since it invaded in July 1974 following a coup in Nicosia supported by the then military junta in Athens. Turkish-Cypriot leaders declared a breakaway state in 1983, which is not recognised except by Ankara.

A year-long U.N. mediation bid collapsed in April when Mr. Denktash finally rejected a package of confidence building measures having originally agreed in Principle.

Mr. Clerides said that he will not reopen talks on the measures which were supposed to mark the first steps towards resolving the situation.

The U.N. Security Council has called on the guaranteeing powers Britain, Greece and Turkey to put forward new proposals to end the island's division.

Mr. Clerides cited Ghali's report to the Security Council on May 30, which said the Turkish side "has consistently flouted the wishes of the international community."

Mr. Clerides said it was thus "necessary for the Security Council to be asked to consider coercive measures against the side which is flouting its resolutions."

Mideastern youth team visits U.S.

WASHINGTON (USIA) — If peace is ever to become a lasting reality in the Middle East, it must be nurtured by the next generation. With this in mind, a group of young Israeli and Arab teenagers came to Washington following two weeks in a Maine summer camp founded to promote the peace and understanding that has eluded adult diplomats for decades.

The group of more than one hundred Israeli and Arab teenagers is known as "Seeds of Peace." Upon their arrival in Washington, they made history as the first Arabs and Israelis to usher in the Jewish New Year together when they attended Rosh Hashana services Sept. 6 at Washington's Adas Israel Congregation. The following day, the group visited the Islamic Centre/Mosque and participated in a Muslim prayer service.

President Clinton has welcomed the delegation to the United States in a brief ceremony at the White House Sept. 8.

The Seeds of Peace Programme, non-profit organisation founded by John Wallach, an author and journalist for the Hearst Newspapers, offers an opportunity for young people to get to know one another outside of the tensions of the Middle East region.

The president expressed his hope that by the time the young people are his age, "the problems of the Middle East will be a distant memory, and all of you will celebrate the unity and strength, the harmony and prosperity of a region of people working together, just as you have sung together today and come together in the United States."

"A year ago, almost to the day, we had the signing of the Israeli-PLO accord here. And there were young people from Seeds of Peace here. And when they were here, I saw them and asked that all present dedicate themselves to peace for the next generation. Since then we have seen an agreement between Israel and Jordan," Mr. Clinton said.

"We have seen further peace on the other Middle East fronts — further progress on the other Middle East peace fronts. And we have seen just last week Morocco and Israel take the first step towards establishing diplomatic relations."

"But ahead of all that is the simple magic of the person-to-person relationships that you are building, and a future you are building for yourselves."

At a State Department luncheon Sept. 8 Vice-President Al Gore welcomed "Seeds of Peace" to Washington and told the group that with the historic peace accords between Israel and her Jordanian and Palestinian neighbours, "further progress towards peace (is) in just on the horizon. And you, the next generation of peace-makers in the Middle East, are essential in assuring that these agreements are implemented successfully, particularly on the human level."

Under-Secretary Peter Tarnoff also praised the young peace-makers for their commitment to coexistence. "Agreements on paper are not by themselves sufficient," Tarnoff told the delegation.

Human understanding, mutual confidence and friendship are equally important to build peace and prosperity for your people in your countries. With these friendships you have... demonstrated to the world that peace can become a reality between Arabs and Israelis," he said.

"Seeds of Peace" was founded in 1993 by Mr. Wallach in Otisfield, Maine, to promote friendship and understanding between Arab and Israeli youth.

Mr. Wallach, Hearst newspaper foreign editor, said he launched the Seeds of Peace project following the bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York.

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. seeks Israeli experts in invasion

TEL AVIV (AP) — The United States has asked Israel, in the event of a possible U.S. invasion of Haiti, to send advisers to help restore order, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Saturday. President Clinton and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin have discussed the matter by telephone, Israel radio said. Israel's paramilitary border police has played a key role in fighting the Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Special border police units have been trained in riot control. However, Mr. Peres said that, if the need arose, only a small number of advisers would be sent, and that Israeli troops would not be patrolling the streets of Haiti. "Let's say the regime will fall and the Haitian police needs professional advice, or let's say after a confrontation there would be a need to restore order, in these cases we were asked to give police advice," Mr. Peres told Israel Army radio. In a buildup of military forces preparing for a possible invasion of Haiti, the Pentagon announced in Washington Friday that troops from one of its premier light infantry divisions would begin "training operations" in the Caribbean. (See page 4)

Turkey expands visa requirements

ANKARA (R) — Turkey said on Saturday it was moving ahead with plans to impose visa requirements on citizens of countries that demand similar documents from visiting Turks. The Turkish Foreign Ministry said in a written statement that the new visa regime was based on the "principle of mutuality" and dismissed domestic criticism that it would undercut Turkey's vital tourist industry. "After continuing work and evaluation by our ministry it was decided to issue compulsory visas to citizens of these countries," it said. The statement did not set a deadline, nor did it list the countries in question. Seeking to quiet critics, it said visits by tourists already required to obtain visas were on the rise, in contrast to a drop in visitors from countries now exempt. It suggested tourist visas would be available at border crossings and airports. The announcement, which had been expected, comes two days after Ankara said it was restricting access into Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq from Turkish soil. Ruffled by human rights reports from foreign delegations crossing into north Iraq, Turkey said on Thursday it was clamping down on the border crossing at Hapur.

Turkish foreign minister visits Baku

ANKARA (AP) — Wary of Russian involvement in nearby conflicts, Turkey's foreign minister flew to Baku on Saturday to urge those involved in the war over Nagorno-Karabakh to seek further help in reaching peace. Foreign Minister Mumtaz Soysal said the two warring republics, Azerbaijan and Armenia — should pursue a peaceful solution to their dispute through the conference on security and cooperation in Europe. Mr. Soysal expressed Turkey's uneasiness over Russia's active efforts to end the war. Turkey fears Russian troops will be deployed in Azerbaijan to observe peace. "The international efforts are more important rather than the efforts of one country in the peace process," Mr. Soysal told reporters. His two-day visit came after the presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia met Friday in Moscow in a bid to end the war.

Arab youths protest after car thief shot dead

PAU, France (R) — Arab youths protested overnight in the southwestern city of Pau, injuring a policeman and damaging or destroying cars, after one of their comrades was killed while allegedly trying to steal a car, police said on Saturday. The youths, many of them hooded and wielding baseball bats and machetes, threw paving stones and shouted "murderers" and "racists" at riot police in a rundown suburb of Pau where the trouble broke out, police said. A spokesman said the clashes followed the death of Azzouz Riad, a 24-year-old of Moroccan origin. A retired French soldier allegedly surprised Riad breaking into his car and shot him dead. Officials said police had arrested the ex-soldier.

Rabin exchanges messages with Cypriot president

NICOSIA (AFP) — Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides exchanged messages on the Middle East peace process and Cyprus issues, the Cypriot agency (CNA) said Friday. In his message, Mr. Rabin briefer Mr. Clerides on recent developments between Israel and its Arab neighbours. Mr. Clerides in turn expressed his country's "support" for Israeli-Arab peace negotiations, and informed Mr. Rabin of current efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem. Israeli-Cypriot relations have been boosted by the opening of a Cypriot embassy in Tel Aviv and reciprocal visits by Mr. Clerides and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, in July. Mr. Peres said during his visit that Cyprus had a "central" role to play in Middle East peace because of its good relations also with Arab countries, notably Syria.

Rebels kill 7 in village raid in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Kurdish rebels killed seven civilians in an overnight raid on Ulukale village in southeast Turkey, Anatolia news agency reported on Saturday. A group of Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) guerrillas raided Ulukale, in Tunceli province, on Friday night, killing seven villagers and wounding two, the semi-official agency said. Anatolia said the rebels set fire to houses in the village before fleeing. It quoted officials as saying operations were underway to capture the attackers. The report could not be independently confirmed. The interior minister said last week that security forces killed more than 400 rebel Kurds in the month of August. More than 12,800 rebels, civilians and government soldiers have been killed in Turkey since the PKK launched its violent campaign for a separate Turkish state in the southeast in 1984.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Yahya Abdul Salam	736072
Dr. Fakhri Tayeh	883880
Dr. Ahmad Khamis	747684
Dr. Salim Al Dabab	776751
Firas pharmacy	661912
Fordous pharmacy	778336
Al Asma pharmacy	637055
Nairoth pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shamsi pharmacy	657660
Nairoth pharmacy	623672
Najib pharmacy	847632
IRBID:	
Dr. Ali Al Shoaibi	246140
Alquds pharmacy	(—)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Vissel Abu Sa'd	989000
Khalilith pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Husseini Medical Centre	81381/332
Khalidi Maternity, J. Ann.	
Rescue	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	617101
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	603800
Price Complaints	661176
Complaints	787111
Amman Municipality	897467
Repairs	787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	
Repairs	623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs	661101
Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	680100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	06-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	08-53200
AKILCH MATERNITY, J. ANN.	044-28110
Jabal Amman Maternity	642441/2
Mahass, J. Amman	636140
Palatine, Shamsi	664171/4
Shamsi Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Mushtaq Hospital	667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajir	771101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashraf	775112/6
Army, Marka	891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	674155
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	091963323
Zarqa National Hospital	
Ibn Sina Hospital	091930560
Al Hikma Modern Hospital	091998732
IRBID:	
Princess Basma Hospital	021272555
Greek Catholic Hospital	02127275
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital	021247100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	03134111

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
14:25	Moscow (SU)
19:45	Larnaca (CY)
20:30	Cairo (MS)
21:15	Beirut (ME)
23:30	Istanbul (TK)
01:25	Amsterdam (KL)
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
06:50	Bangkok (RJ)
08:15	Agaba (RJ)
09:45	Beirut (RJ)
12:00	Damascus (RJ)
12:00	Rome (RJ)
12:00	Vienna (RJ)
12:00	Cadiz, Tania (RJ)
12:40	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
13:00	Riyadh (RJ)
13:45	Athens (RJ)
14:05	Agaba, Cairo (RJ)
14:25	Riyadh (RJ)
14:45	Damascus (RJ)
15:00	New Delhi (RJ)
15:30	Jeddah (RJ)
16:00	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
16:30	Singapore, Jakarta (RJ)
16:55	London (RJ)
19:35	Brussels, Geneva (RJ)
19:45	Frankfurt (RJ)
20:50	Vienna (RJ)
21:00	Rome (RJ)
01:20	Cairo (RJ)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
13:30	Abu Dhabi, Moscow (GF)

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN	
Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday	
Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday	
Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday	
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday	
MARKET PRICES	
Upplower price in file per kg.	
Apple	600/400
Banana	600
Banana (Mukatar)	620
Cabbage	120/60
Carrot	340/240
Cauliflower	260/180
Cucumbers (large)	180/100
Cucumbers (small)	340/220
Eggplant	240/160
Garlic	600/700
Grapes (Hilwani)	460/360
Grapes (Hilwani)	850/600
Guava	340/240
Lemon	280/200
Marrow (large)	200/120
Marrow (small)	420/300
Minichia	350/200
Onion (dry)	300/200
Sweet Melon	320/240
Pepper (hot)	280/200
Pepper (sweet)	320/200
Potato	360/260
Pumpkin	900/600
Pumpkin	340/240
Spinach	350/200
Tomato	120/60
String beans	750/500
Watermelon	100/120

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

..... Les Miserables (Pt. 1)

..... News in French
..... Faulty Pals Revue
..... News in Hebrew
..... FBI: Untold Stories
..... News in Arabic
..... Step By Step
..... Quantum Leap
..... News in English
..... Snowy River

PRAYER TIMES

..... Fajr
..... (Sunrise) Duha
..... Dhuhr
..... 'Asr
..... Maghrib
..... Isha

CHURCHES

..... Mary of Nazareth Church
..... Tel. 810740
..... Assemblies of God Church, Tel.
..... 637785
..... St. Joseph Church Tel. 623490
..... Church of the Annunciation Tel.
..... 637440
..... De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
..... Terrence Church Tel. 623484
..... Church of the Annunciation Tel.
..... 623541
..... Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel.
..... 628543
..... Armenian Catholic Church Tel.
..... 771331
..... Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
..... 775251
..... St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
..... Amman International Church Tel.
..... 652526
..... Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.
..... 623433
..... German-speaking Evangelical Con-
..... gregation Tel. 684195
..... The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
..... Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
..... The Evangelical Local Church in
..... Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

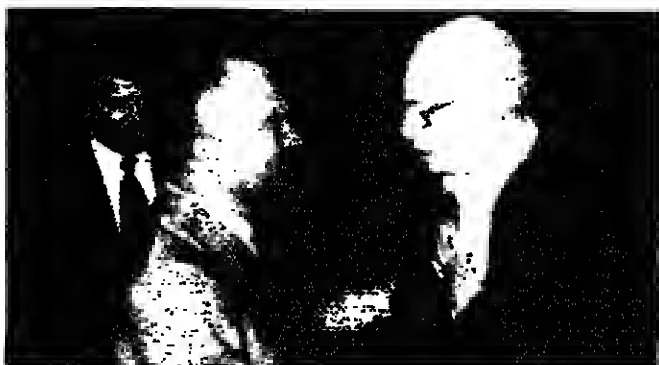
Bulletin supplied by the Department
of Meteorology.

It will be relatively hot with
winds light and variable. In Agaba,
winds will be northerly moderate
and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

Amman	19/33
Agaba	23/38
Deserts	18/25
Jordan Valley	34/38

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 34, Agaba 38 Humidity
readings: Amman 31 per cent,
Agaba 32 per cent.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday condoles Salim Salih, father of Layla Salih who was killed in a tragic shooting Thursday (Petra photo)

Regent condoles family of shooting victim

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday visited Al Salih family to offer his condolences over the death of his daughter, Layla Salih, who was killed by a stray bullet during a tribal clash in Naour last Thursday.

Prince Hassan said he was conveying the sympathy of His Majesty King Hussein to the bereaved family and expressed deep regret over the tragic incident.

The parents and relatives of the victim, a bank employee in her mid-20s, expressed their gratitude to Prince Hassan and the Royal Family for their concern and sympathy.

Layla was among five people killed when a wedding procession was attacked by gunfire in an apparent act of vengeance, according to police.

The clash occurred as a wedding party drove along the Um Al Amad-Khadra Road Thursday evening, and a minibus in the procession was shot at by gunmen in two pickup trucks parked on the side of the road, according to a wedding party member.

The two families involved in the shoot-out were the Hajars (the wedding party) and the Hussinis, both of the large Ajarmeh tribe from Naour, police said.

Layla Salih was sitting on her farm at the time of the incident and fell victim to a stray bullet during the cross-fire, according to police reports.

Mr. Salih told Jordan Television Saturday that his daughter was an exemplary young woman in her concern and care for her family, friends and colleagues.

Layla was on the staff of the Housing Bank.

Princess Basma calls for shared responsibility in protecting and preserving the environment

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A safe and clean environment should be the priority of both the government and the public sectors, said participants to the "Family and Environment" workshop held here Saturday.

"The environment issue should be a responsibility shared between individuals and government sectors," Her Royal Highness Princess Basma said, addressing participants at the Inter-Continental Hotel, who are attending the two-day workshop organized by the Centennial Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) in cooperation with the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

"The government alone cannot provide all the necessary resources and the public should also be responsible for preserving natural resources," added Princess Basma who is the honorary president of the YWCA.

The Princess said that she considers this workshop the first step towards a mechanism of continuous cooperation between the public and government sectors to form a future plan of action.

She added that the environment issue has created

a significant challenge worldwide, encouraging countries to unite their efforts to preserve the planet from major environmental problems.

Abdullah Khatib, president of GUVS, also addressed the participants saying that environmental pollution has forced itself all over the world, "and forced human beings to seek alternative solutions quickly."

"I am not going to be optimistic about this subject because every hour of our lives we are destroying elements of the environment," Dr. Khatib said.

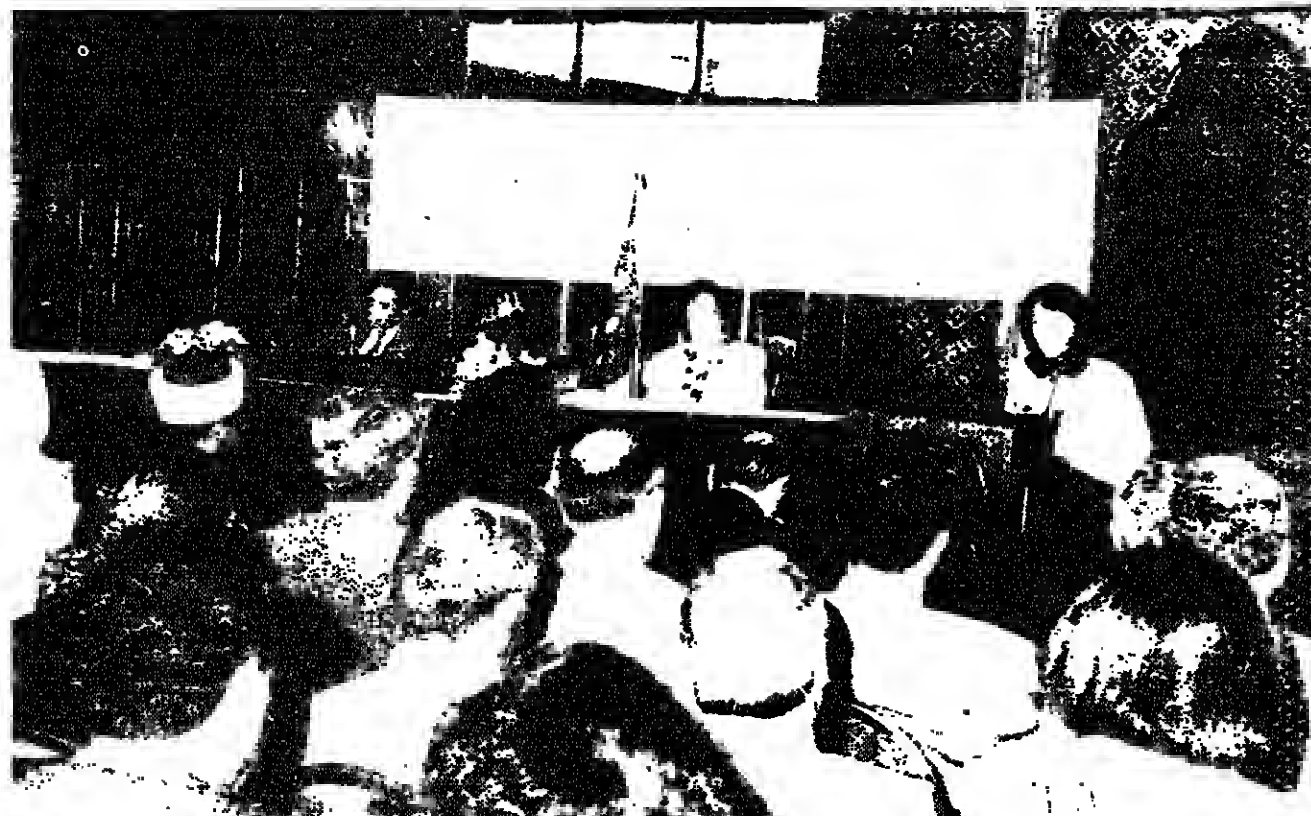
Moreover, Dr. Khatib pointed to the importance of creating a balance between life elements and social development.

He said that one of the most important factors in preserving natural resources was increasing the awareness of the future generations.

"We need to start by teaching our children ways to keep the atmosphere clean, then we should look into implementing legislation and laws," he said.

YWCA President Layal Najjar said this workshop is part of the association's goals which call for sharing love and providing services from women to women and improving their education and standard of living.

"The Centennial Com-



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday addresses a workshop on 'Family and Environment' at the Inter-Continental Hotel (Petra photo)

mittee wanted to tackle the environment issue for its importance and to emphasize the important role women play in preserving natural resources," Mrs. Najjar said.

At the end of the event, she said, the participants

will present recommendations to be implemented in future projects of the YWCA.

Saturday, participants tackled two issues, one regarding environmental legislation and its role in protecting the environment,

and the second lecture discussed health and environmental behaviour.

Today, three lectures will convene before the workshop concludes with recommendations. The topics will be on natural resources and

the environment, the role of the voluntary and non-governmental women's

organisations in environmental activity, religion and the environment, and finally a workshop will be held on special projects.

Visiting Canadian team explores investment scopes

AMMAN (J.T.) — The head of a visiting Canadian business delegation, Salim Al Hirsh, Saturday said Canadian businesspersons of Arab origin were willing to launch joint investment projects with the Jordanian business community.

Speaking at a meeting with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Mr. Hirsh said that the Canadian business community was ready to advance understanding and cooperation with Jordan.

At the meeting, where Chairman of the Jordanian Businessmen's Association (JBA) Hamdi Tabbara was also present as host of the Canadian team, Mr. Hirsh said his colleagues support the Hashemite leadership's wise policies and Jordan's drive to achieve a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Dr. Majali outlined the Jordanian government's drive to reduce the burden of foreign debts through rescheduling and through en-

couraging investments in major projects that can create jobs and help the country produce and export more products.

Dr. Majali said the government plans to develop laws aimed at providing more incentives for investors.

Referring to the peace process, Dr. Majali said that the country hopes peace would bring more cooperation in economic and investment fields among the nations of the region.

Noting that Jordan was in need of foreign investment, the prime minister said that the Kingdom was facing economic burdens as a result of the prevailing circumstances in the region over the past decades, and so it hopes that Jordanian expatriates would extend a helping hand to the homeland.

On relations with Arab states, Dr. Majali said that Amman was keeping open all channels of dialogue and coordination with other Arab parties because the Kingdom

was intent on maintaining strong ties with all its Arab neighbours and hopes that temporary misunderstandings would soon vanish.

Earlier the Canadian team met Industry and Trade Minister Rima Khalaf who said that Jordan expects that the new peace era would attract more investments in tourism and other areas. Dr. Khalaf echoed the Prime Minister's hope that Canadian businesspersons would study areas for investment including the industrial sectors.

The minister outlined the Jordanian laws and legislation regarding foreign investors and the exemptions offered them in economic schemes.

The Canadian team was also met by Mohammad Snaidi, the secretary general of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, who said the ministry was revising the existing legislation to make investment to Jordan more lucrative and attractive.

'Government considers participating in U.S.-sponsored tourism conference'

By Khattab Salman
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan is considering participating in a Middle East tourism conference to be held later this month in Cairo with the participation of 13 tour operators and government officials, according to Ministry of Tourism sources.

Taghreed Hijawi of the Press Department at the Ministry of Tourism told the Jordan Times Saturday that an invitation was received from the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) to attend a regional tourism conference in Cairo later this month and an international tourism conference to be held in Portugal in November, but whether to attend or not is still being considered.

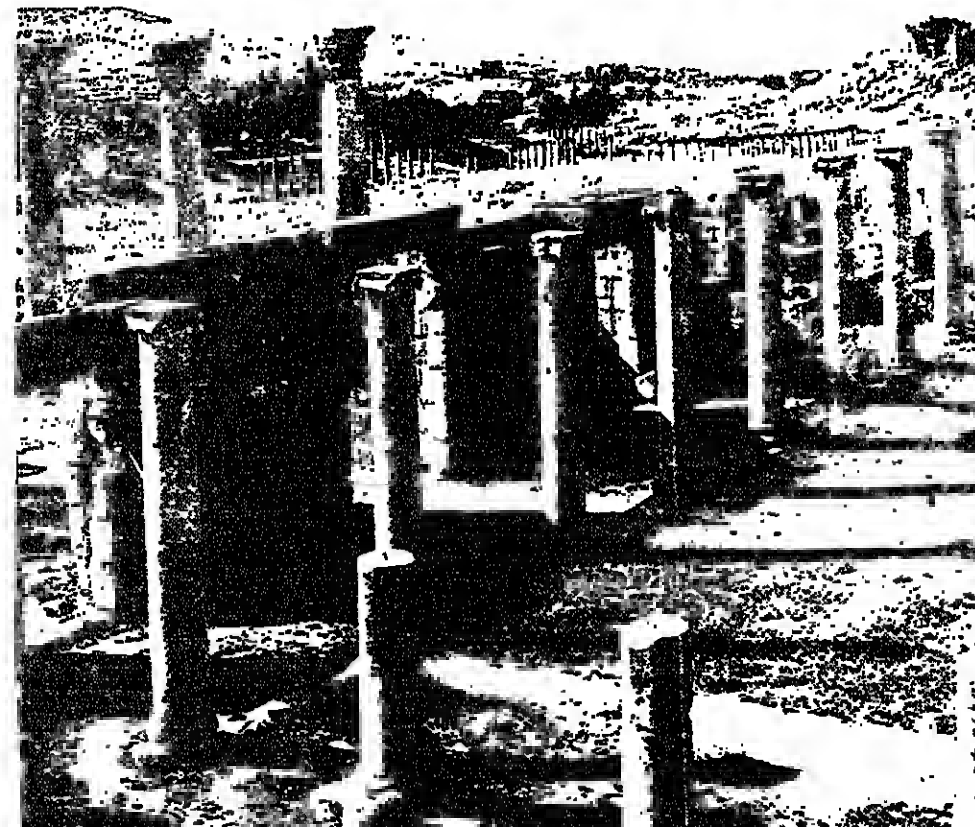
Mohammad Abu Summagah, also from the Ministry of Tourism, said that if Jordan is to participate in the forthcoming Cairo conference, public and private sector representatives will take part in the regional event.

The conference comes upon the invitation of the U.S. State Department, ASTA, and the United States-Tour Operators Association (USTOA) to participate in an unprecedented regional workshop entitled "Tourism in the New Middle East" in Cairo on Sept. 28 and 29.

The workshop will include 12 U.S. tour operators who will instruct the regional participants on how regional tourism can be initiated as well as marketed in the United States. Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, and Yemen tour operators and government officials are invited to take part in the two-day event.

"By working with distinguished groups of experts, the participating private sector representatives and tourism officials from the Middle East not only can achieve a stronger and better coordinated regional tourism economy, they can actually help foster stronger peace in the region," President of ASTA Earlene Causey said in an ASTA press release.

One of the areas where there is common agreement between Jordan and Israel in the field of tourism is joint promotion of the touristic attractions in both countries through ASTA. According to press statements given by Tourism Minister Mohammad Adwan, and his Israeli counterpart Uzi Bar Am after their meeting during talks held between Jordanian and Israeli negotiators at the Israeli Moriah Hotel last month.



The entrance leading to Theodorus Church in the ancient city of Jerash (File photo)

Mr. Bar Am had said during the talks that Israel has agreed to help promote Jordan through tourism packages arranged by ASTA on the American market where Israel enjoys a great influence.

Israel received an influx of 2.4 million tourists in 1993 spending more than

\$2.5 billion. Jordan is trying to attract a greater number of tourists, Israel and Jordan had agreed during the Dead Sea talks to promote Jordan through an extension package for American tourists coming to Israel.

The Kingdom opened a border crossing point for

third country nationals in order to facilitate the crossing of tourists from Jordan to Israel and vice versa.

More than 4400 tourists have used the Aqaba-Eilat crossing since it was opened two months ago, according to a Ministry of Tourism report.

Music educators highlight value of their field to children

By Angham Tamimi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Children's songs play an important role in the development of a child's mentality and abilities, says Ilham Su'oud, the first teacher of musical education in Syria.

Speaking at a symposium during the First Jordanian Festival of Children's Song at the Royal Cultural Centre, Mrs. Su'oud and two other pioneer Arab musicians talked about their long experience in this field and presented several suggestions to improve Arab children's song.

Mrs. Su'oud and Ratiha Hafni, the art consultant of the Cairo Opera House, caught the audience's attention by interspersing two or three minute recordings of children's songs during their lectures to clarify their theories and opinions. "Quoting great international writers, philosophers and thinkers such as Shakespeare, Martin Luther King, Confucius and Ali Kamal, Mrs. Hafni said that musical education must be linked to other school curricula because it is as important as mathematics or geography.

In discussing different forms of group singing, Mrs. Hafni said that choral teaching children how to concentrate and to discover beauty. She believes that choral singing is the most influential type of singing

a great deal on his/her musical education, said Mrs. Hafni.

She contends that if talking is an important means of self-expression, then singing is the most essential because talking is accompanied by music.

Referring to the children's games which involve song, Mrs. Su'oud and Mrs. Hafni agreed that such games are an effective way of self-expression, especially when played in groups. Children learn how to respect rules and work efficiently.

In addition, games develop harmonious sensitivity, they said. "Scientists of education and philosophy believe that singing influences human beings," said Mrs. Hafni. "Songs having clear harmony make children understand the aesthetic aspects of life, and help avoid what is ugly and odd," Mrs. Hafni said.

The two women also agreed that musical education must be linked to other school curricula because it is as important as mathematics or geography.

In discussing different forms of group singing, Mrs. Hafni said that choral teaching children how to concentrate and to discover beauty. She believes that choral singing is the most influential type of singing

since it leads to social maturity.

Canon singing, where two or more groups sing the same song in an overlapping succession, is another choral form, said Mrs. Hafni, who demonstrated the form with Mrs. Su'oud by singing scales. Mrs. Hafni asked the audience to join in to prove her point of the impressiveness of canon singing.

As children need songs as much as they do food, said Mrs. Hafni, then as a child grows, his/her songs begin to differ regarding harmony, musical instruments, language and ideas.

The three lecturers believe that the developed countries pay significant attention to musical education, with often government-sponsored programmes on television, radio and publications.

The lecturers suggested following suit by using Arab heritage and its rich reservoir for ideas and talented teachers to create a multi-faceted resource of Arab children's music, making use of modern musical education, and issuing a specialised related magazine.

The Jordanian Festival of Children's Song concluded Saturday with Her Royal Highness Prince Zain distributing awards to the participants.

WHAT'S GOING ON

FILMS

- Chinese film entitled "The Red Carn" (with subtitles in English) at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.
- Film entitled "Five Came Back" at the American Center at 5:00 p.m. (93 minutes).

PLAY

- Children's play in Arabic entitled "The Festival" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 10:00 a.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings by Yousef Al Baddawi at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of Chinese paintings and handicrafts at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of oil paintings by Iraqi artists Sa'd Al Ta'i, Talal Issa and Mahdi Al Assadi at Al 'Ain Art Gallery (Tel. 644451).
- Exhibition of paintings by selected Iraqi artists at Alia Art Gallery (Tel. 639303).
- "The Diness Exhibit" — beginnings of photography in Jerusalem and the Holy Land at the American Center exhibition hall, Abdoun.
- Exhibition entitled "Time-2 Space 1" by Samia Zarou at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shuman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/21).

Public health workers to benefit from new allowances — minister

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Health Ministry is preparing a new allowance and incentives programme for all public health workers including doctors and nurses, according to Health Minister Aref Batayneh.

Dr. Batayneh told the Jordan Times Saturday that starting next year health workers will receive allowances in line with an incentives system started in 1992 as well as improved professional allowances.

Allocations for these new benefits, he said, will be made in the 1995 budget. Asked whether Health Ministry doctors receive salaries equivalent to those of physicians at the Jordan University Hospital as demanded by the Jordan Medical Association (JMA), Dr. Batayneh said doctors at the university



Aref Batayneh

hospital receive basic salaries for their regular services at the hospital plus a salary for training medical students.

According to the minister, government hospital doctors receive higher pay than their peers at the university hospital who are not on the teaching staff.

Around 2,000 doctors at Ministry of Health hosp-

itals last June staged a two hour sit-in to demand salaries on par with those of their colleagues in other medical sectors of the country.

Dr. Batayneh said that under the new system technical facilities at hospitals will improve, giving doctors and other health workers additional incentives to carry out their respective tasks.

The new allowance programme will be announced in about two weeks, he said. JMA President Issam Maraja took up the doctors' grievances to the government and recently discussed the issue with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, who, according to Health Ministry sources responded to the JMA and the doctors' demands.

Dr. Maraja said the JMA appreciated the government's favourable response to the demands of the public health sector.

IRA jailbreak attempt casts cloud over N. Ireland ceasefire

LONDON (R) — A group of IRA prisoners including a man jailed for plotting to blow up the British government tried to shoot their way out of jail overnight, casting a cloud of doubt over a 10-year-old guerrilla ceasefire.

A prison guard was shot and wounded as the group of IRA men and another inmate with no guerrilla links staged the bold but abortive break-out attempt from an English maximum-security prison, the Prison Service said Saturday.

Two of the escape team made it past prison guards and were on the run for two hours before being recaptured late Friday.

The attempted jailbreak, coming so soon after the Irish Republican Army (IRA) announced it was "completely laying down its arms, was seen to undermine faith in the ceasefire and brought immediate condemnation from Northern Irish Protestants.

Leading Protestant unionist politician Ken Maginnis said the attempted escape was a clear breach of the IRA's ceasefire and showed the group had yet to abandon violence.

His battle to unite the fish-riddled province with the Irish Republic.

"This incident is a stark reminder that amidst the rhetoric... the IRA remains active, scheming and dangerous organisation and

its members are still prepared to use weapons and explosives to achieve their ends," he told British radio.

"Last night prison officers and police could have been killed by this organisation in this very well-planned operation," said Mr. Maginnis, whose Ulster Unionist Party supports continued British authority over the province.

It was not clear whether the prisoners were acting on their own initiative or on orders from the IRA's high command. Prison officials said the inmates did not appear to have any getaway car or help on hand outside the high-security Whitemoor Jail in Cambridgeshire, north of London.

Even if the escape attempt was a maverick bid for freedom, it is likely to make Britain even more wary about accepting the ceasefire as the complete end to violence needed to open the door to peace talks with the IRA's political wing Sinn Fein.

Although Dublin is convinced of the IRA's sincerity, London insists there can be no doubt about the permanence of the ceasefire before Sinn Fein can be brought in from the cold under an Anglo-Irish formula offering political talks in return for an end to IRA violence.

Sinn Fein had no immediate comment on the escape

bid. Officials at Prime Minister John Major's office and the Northern Ireland office, the ministry in charge of the province, were not immediately available for comment.

The would-be escapees included Peter Sherry, who is serving a life sentence for conspiring in a 1984 bombing that came close to killing members of Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government at a conference in the resort town of Brighton. Five people died in the attack.

A row involving a co-conspirator in the Brighton bombing, Patrick Magee, clouded the first day of the ceasefire when he was included in a group of IRA prisoners transferred to jail in Northern Ireland. A red-faced Britain insisted the transfer had been planned for months and was not an early reward for the IRA.

The Prison Service said "one or more firearms" were used in Friday's escape bid, which recalled another jailbreak three years ago in which two IRA suspects forced their way out of a South London prison with a gun smuggled in a training shoe.

Prison guards pursued the group under fire and one officer was treated in hospital for superficial gunshot

wounds. Four of the men were caught at the prison fence and the two who managed to escape from the compound were found hiding in a ditch two hours later within one mile of the jail.

The non-IRA inmate, Andrew Russell, was in jail for crimes including armed robbery and attempted prison escape.

Meanwhile, Northern Irish police Saturday defused a home-made bomb planted outside the home of a member of Sinn Fein, police said.

The neighbourhood was closed off for more than an hour while army and police bomb disposal experts defused the small device.

By midday, nobody had claimed responsibility for planting the bomb outside the house near Londonderry, west of Belfast.

Protestant extremists have refused to respond to the announcement on Sept. 1 by the IRA of a ceasefire and within hours of the ceasefire starting last week the hard-line loyalist Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF) claimed responsibility for the killing of a Catholic man in North Belfast.

Two days later, the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF), another loyalist paramilitary group, claimed responsibility for a car bomb attack on Sinn Fein offices.



Riot police stand against a barbed wire fence Saturday as Bangladesh's opposition groups enforce a siege of the capital (AFP photo)

More than 200 hurt in Dhaka street battles

DHAKA (R) — Police used tear gas and rubber bullets against crowds hurling bombs and rocks in the Bangladesh capital Dhaka Saturday, leaving more than 200 people injured, witnesses said.

They said police arrested at least 100 people as opposition parties launched a major anti-government protest. Some witnesses put the number of protesters at more than 25,000.

Fighting erupted only 500 metres from the main government secretariat as protesters drove back protesters trying to storm barbed-wire barricades.

Police chased them down the streets and through a park but soon retreated under a hail of stones, one witness said. The protesters later pulled down the park's boundary wall used the bricks to put up their own road blocks.

As more protesters tried to reach the secretariat unidentified gunmen fired at them near Dhaka University, witnesses said.

One witness said police fired rubber bullets at several points in the city and activists used home-made bombs.

Protesters were trying to push through police barricades to hold rallies and sit-ins at government buildings as part of what they call a "siege" of Dhaka to back demands for the government to step down.

The Home (Interior) Ministry said nearly 10,000 police and paramilitary soldiers had been deployed.

The main opposition Awami League, supported by the militant Jatiya Party, has called the "siege" over demands for the government to resign and call early general elections.

The opposition says early polls should be supervised by a neutral caretaker government to ensure free and fair voting.

Awami chief Sheikh Hasina described the police action as "not only undemocratic but totally autocratic."

"They used bullets against our democratic movement and now we will have to think for alternative," Mrs. Hasina told a reporter.

"The success of today's siege has proved mass support for our movement and we will follow it up," she added.

Witnesses said more than 200 people were injured, including senior Awami leader Mohammad Nasim who was hit on the head by a stone or baton.

Reporters said a small group of about 20 women stormed through a police barrier and began a sit-in just outside the secretariat, cheered by onlookers.

Paramilitary forces manned strategic points in the city or patrolled in trucks mounted with machineguns. A strike by transport workers stopped people entering or leaving the capital and a general strike has been called for Sunday. Transport within the city limits was partially hit.

Invasion of Haiti could come 'as early as Sept. 21'

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Preparations are under way for a U.N.-authorised, U.S.-led invasion of Haiti as early as Sept. 21, a senior U.S. military official said.

The official, who asked to remain anonymous, said plans were being made for an invasion between Sept. 21 and the end of November. As many as 20,000 troops could participate, including women pilots aboard an aircraft carrier.

The troops could remain for one year or longer in the U.N. mission, which would be aimed at ousting Haiti's military leadership and restoring exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the official said.

Mr. Aristide, Haiti's first democratically elected president, was ousted in an army coup Sept. 30, 1991.

The invasion plan calls for special U.S. army and Marine units to seize strategic points in Haiti, followed by army paratroopers and then an army light division.

At the same time, in an effort to make an invasion unnecessary U.S. military aircraft plan to drop leaflets this weekend calling for military leaders to step aside, another Pentagon source said.

The Pentagon said meanwhile that two warships were being readied as part of the U.S. fleet that would act in a Haiti mission, including the aircraft carrier, Eisenhower and the Mount Whitney, which would serve as a command and control ship for multinational forces.

President Bill Clinton telephoned Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Argentine President Carlos Menem Thursday to discuss the Haiti crisis, the White House said.

Presidential spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers, who accompanied Mr. Clinton to New Orleans, said that Israel and Argentina could be "contributing at some point in some way to a multinational effort" aimed at restoring democracy in Haiti.

Mr. Clinton has already spoken with other world leaders about the crisis, she said.

Israel announced last month it would not provide troops to any international intervention in Haiti, but would provide humanitarian aid if needed.

N. Zealanders to see edited version of naked prince

AUCKLAND (AFP) — New Zealanders will get to see the naked Prince Charles Sunday, although certain crucial details will be edited out. The naked photograph of the Prince of Wales, snapped while he was on holiday in southern France, has been seen as too hot by the British tabloids but will grace the cover of the tabloid Sunday News, owned by Independent News, in turn 50 per cent owned by Rupert Murdoch's News Limited. Editor Suzanne Chetwin said she had no qualms about showing the photograph, which has already appeared in the German magazine Bild Zeitung and France's Paris Match. "The fact of the matter is we didn't invade his privacy, somebody else did and that has become a major news event," she said. However, the original photograph of the prince wearing nothing but a robe over his shoulder would be altered in Sunday's edition, so he would not be seen in all his glory, Ms. Chetwin said. She would not say how much she paid for the picture, which is of decidedly fuzzy quality, but said it was "much cheaper than what you think."

Taiwanese woman gets 2 days in jail, fine for bigamy

SINGAPORE (AFP) — A Taiwanese woman has been fined for bigamy and jailed for two days, press reports said Saturday. Lee Yueh-Shu, 27, was fined a total of 6,500 Singapore dollars (\$4,350) and jailed for one day on each of two charges to which she pleaded guilty. She was fined 5,000 Singapore dollars and jailed for a day for making a false statement that she was single and fined 1,500 Singapore dollars and jailed for a day on the other charge of marrying a second time when her first marriage was still valid. People jailed for one day stay in the court lock up and are released in the evening. They are not sent to prison. In mitigation Ms. Lee told the court that she has separated from her first husband who she married in 1989. They had no children. Ms. Lee said they were separated and divorced on March 23 this year. She told the court that in 1991 she married the second time but declared herself single since she thought that her separation from her first husband for three years was considered a divorce.

Filipino actor arrested for 4th time on drugs

MANILA (R) — A Filipino film actor has been arrested for the fourth time on drugs charges, police said Saturday. Ace Vergel, who takes tough guy roles, was arrested Friday evening with 800 grams (28 oz) of marijuana and three grams of cocaine, narcotics command Chief Ramsey Ocampo told reporters. Vergel will be charged with violating drug trafficking laws and could face the death penalty if convicted, Chief Ocampo added. The actor was arrested on drugs charges once each year from 1991-1993 but all the charges were dismissed for lack of evidence.

Ecuadoran elite rocked by scandal

QUITO (AFP) — President Sixto Duran-Ballen's granddaughter will sue lawmakers for slander for charging that she pulled strings to secure a \$830,000 government loan, her lawyer said Friday. Jose Guerrero, who represents Enma Paredes Duran-Ballen, said she had requested the loan from the National Financial Corporation as "just another citizen" well within her rights. Ms. Paredes Duran-Ballen also is the niece of Foreign Minister Diego Paredes. Lawmakers including Xavier Neira of the main opposition Social Christian Party have accused her of using her family ties to gain access to the funds, officially meant for use in upgrading a candy factory. But Quito Judge Bolivar Penafiel found that funds were not likely used for the candy business as agreed. Members of Congress say Ms. Paredes Duran-Ballen used the funds to keep afloat the illegal operations of a financial front company allegedly owned by her in-laws, and that she used inner-circle access to get her husband Fabian Anda his job in Houston, Texas, as a representative of Ecuador's state oil company.

Wreckage of USAir Flight 427 lies in a remote wooded area 11 miles from the Pittsburgh International Airport. The Boeing 737-300 crashed and all 132 passengers aboard died (AFP photo)

QUIPPA, Pa. (R) — Evidence gathered from the first investigation of victims of USAir Flight 427 has led few clues as to why the plane plunged into a ravine, killing 132.

Investigators planned a second day Saturday of combing through the wreckage of Boeing 737-300, which splattered across a hilly, wooded area about seven miles (11 km) northwest of Pittsburgh.

The crash Thursday evening of USAir Flight 427, en route from Chicago to West Palm Beach, Florida, killed all 132 people on board. It crashed as it was coming in to land at Pittsburgh International Airport.

The doomed airplane's flight data recorder indicated the plane deviated from its flight programme and rolled

about 23 seconds before it crashed, Mr. Vogt said. He said the plane appeared to be at about 6,000 feet when it rolled.

Witnesses told investigators the plane entered an almost vertical nosedive before slamming into the ground, he said.

Mr. Vogt said rotor blades of the plane's two engines indicated the engines were turning at the time of impact, and both engines appeared to have been running at the same speed when the roll began.

He said witnesses interviewed saw nothing that fell from the aircraft, no fires and no smoke before it crashed. Investigators were also following up a suggestion of possible "bird activity" in the area, he said.

A transcript released by NTSB of a conversation between the flight crew and air traffic controllers revealed no signs of problems before the chilling final recorded words of pilot Peter Germano.

"Traffic emergency... oh shit, ahhh..." Germano said, according to the transcript, which had not yet been formally certified as the investigators' final version.

"The actual words that they said don't tell us very much about what happened," Mr. Vogt said.

Pittsburgh, meanwhile, mourned the crash victims, many of whom were reported to have lived in the area. Although USAir has not released a complete list of victims, local television station KDKA reported 70 came from Pennsylvania.

There was no resistance. "We don't know what they (police) actually want. But so far no one has been detained in today's raids," said Razif Zahur, an Al Arqam lawyer.

Al Arqam members were calm and went about performing their routine afternoon prayers in the presence of the enforcement officers.

"We have been taught by our leader not to be violent. Such actions are against our teachings," said an Al Arqam spokesman.

Mr. Ashaari, 57, who founded the Al Arqam Movement in 1968, and his wife and four senior members have been detained under the Internal Security Act, which allows indefinite detention without trial.

An Al Arqam spokesman late Friday said the government had gone too far in harassing the communities.

"But we have given them ample warning," Mr. Zainal said, referring to the one-month ultimatum that expired on Sept. 4 for members to give up Al Arqam teachings. "We are duty-bound to guard the sanctity of Islam," he said.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad has accused Al Arqam followers of using their women as sex slaves by switching wives regularly. The sect had threatened to sue Mr. Mahathir for the remark.

Regional human rights groups have lambasted the predominantly-Muslim Malaysian government's strongarm tactics, saying they reflect intolerance and religious bigotry.

Mr. Mahathir says the federal government will ban any state from imposing Islamic punishments such as the stoning of women adulterers.

"We will stop anyone who attempts to enforce the (Islamic criminal justice) Law," the New Straits Times newspaper Saturday quoted him as saying.

"We have sufficient provisions in the federal constitution to take such action," Mr. Mahathir told a local meeting of his United Malays National Organisation Party Friday.



Police officers look at pictures and paraphernalia depicting Muslim deviant Ashaari Mohammad which were seized from Malaysia's outlawed Islamic sect Al Arqam in a dawn raid at its headquarters in Sungai

Mr. Mahathir said the laws cannot be enforced unless the national parliament, dominated by Mr. Mahathir's multi-racial National Front Coalition, amends the constitution.

That requires a two-thirds majority and Mr. Mahathir's Chinese and Indian partners

Panama, outside the capital Saturday. The operation came after hundreds of sect members, including Mr. Ashaari, were detained under various state laws for practising deviant Islamic teachings (AFP photo)

would probably vote against it.

Mr. Mahathir accused the All Malaysian Islamic Party which rules Kelantan of using the issue to gain political mileage before a coming general election, the New Straits Times said.

An election is not due until the end of next year but Mr. Mahathir is widely expected to call a snap poll later this year or early in 1995.

The government has been preoccupied of late with Islamic issues in Malaysia. Although Islam is the country's official religion, its laws are secular.

Malaysia steps up bid to crush Al Arqam

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) — A stepped up nationwide bid to cripple a banned Islamic sect, Malaysian police Friday, raided two more communities run by the Al Arqam, whose leader has been detained under a state security law.

Similar action will be taken until all 44 Al Arqam communities in the country are "eradicated," said Zainal Abidin, director-general of the government-run National Islamic Centre.

Al Arqam followers were ordered to tear down their hand posters of sect leader Ashaari Mohammad during almost four-hour raids in the towns of Kuala Lumpur.

One was arrested. The two settlements serve a group's nerve and communication centres.

About 100 police in four teams moved into Sungai Bala early Saturday and seized computers, high-tech equipment for video recording and printing work and technical paraphernalia.

was the second operation against communities run by the Arqam, since it was han-

ned on Aug. 27 for spreading what the clergy considers deviationist Islamic teachings.

A bus, a truck and at least half a dozen vehicles bearing the Al Arqam logo were seized. Merchandise bearing the sect logo was also taken away and members were ordered to remove collar-pins that bore Mr. Ashaari's portrait and the logo of the sect.

In Taman Tun Ismail, police took away hi-tech communication equipment and bundles of printed religious documents.

On Friday, in a two-hour pre-dawn raid, police and religious officials rounded up 139 members, including 89 children, at the Taman New Zealand Paroi commune in southwestern Negeri Sembilan state. Eighteen were charged while others were released after being interrogated.

"Today's raids were conducted by the Bukit Aman (Federal Police) Headquarters. I have been asked not to say anything," Zakaria Mohammad, chief of criminal investigations of Kuala Lumpur City told reporters at the scene.

The raids were, nevertheless, peacefully conducted as

there was no resistance. "We don't know what they (police) actually want. But so far no one has been detained in today's raids," said Razif Zahur, an Al Arqam lawyer.

Al Arqam members were calm and went about performing their routine afternoon prayers in the presence of the enforcement officers.

"We have been taught by our leader not to be violent. Such actions are against our teachings," said an Al Arqam spokesman.

Mr. Ashaari, 57, who founded the Al Arqam Movement in 1968, and his wife and four senior members have been detained under the Internal Security Act, which allows indefinite detention without trial.

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"But we have given them ample warning," Mr. Zainal said, referring to the one-month ultimatum that expired on Sept. 4 for members to give up Al Arqam teachings. "We are duty-bound to guard the sanctity of Islam," he said.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad has accused Al

مَدِينَةُ الْمَدِينَةِ



Rwandan refugees seek shelter under a plastic sheet during a violent storm at the Kibumba camp, 30 kilometres from the Zairean town of Goma. Relief officials fear new and fatal

epidemics will spread with the start of the rain season (AFP photo)

Heavy fighting reported in Bosnia's Bihac enclave

SARAJEVO (R) — U.N. officials said Saturday fighting raged between Serbs and Muslim-led forces in a north-west Bosnian enclave where Serbs have mounted an offensive.

Using tanks and artillery, Croatian rebel Serbs and Bosnian Serb forces this week launched joint attacks against the mostly Muslim Bosnian government army in the Bihac enclave.

In the eastern part of the Bihac pocket, United Nations peacekeepers reported some 371 detonations but the Muslim-led Bosnian army was holding its ground against Croatian Serbs, Commander Eric Chaperon, a U.N. military spokesman, said in Sarajevo.

Fighting flared overnight further south in the enclave with 171 detonations reported near Otoka, and the Muslim-led government army appeared to be moving on a Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) supply route east of Bihac town.

"The BiH (Bosnian army) attack seems to threaten the main access road to the BSA barracks east of Bihac. As a probable retaliation the BSA

started shelling the BiH position northeast of Bihac town with tanks and artillery," Maj. Chaperon said.

The U.N. said Croatian Serbs hit the town of Velika Kladua with a rocket attack Friday, killing a woman and wounding four others.

The Muslim-led Bosnian army in Bihac last month put down a year-long revolt by fellow Muslims led by political boss and business tycoon Fikret Abdic. Now it faces an offensive by the Croatian and Bosnian Serbs, who appear to have their sights set on a contested rail line outside of Bihac.

Bosnian Serbs found themselves further isolated after Norway said Serbian-led Yugoslavia had agreed to international monitoring of its blockade against its former proteges.

Norwegian Deputy Foreign Minister Jan Egeland told Reuters in Oslo Friday his country was sending 20 monitors to be part of a 135-strong force intended to ensure that no arms, fuel or other supplies reached the Bosnian Serbs.

"They (the 20 Norwegians)

are scheduled to be in place by Thursday," he said.

There was still no official reaction in Belgrade but Yugoslav media emphasised the international community appeared poised to discuss the easing of U.N. sanctions imposed for rump Yugoslavia's military support for Bosnia's Serbs.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, anxious to hasten the lifting of sanctions, sealed the border with Bosnia's Serbs after their refusal to enforce a peace plan drawn up by big powers.

In return, diplomats say the international community may reopen civilian air routes to Yugoslavia and restore cultural and sporting ties if the monitors go in to verify the blockade against the Bosnian Serbs.

In Zagreb, Croats prepared to welcome Pope John Paul Saturday, rejoicing at their first papal visit after more than 1,000 years as staunch Roman Catholics and three years after winning independence.

Croatia's right-wing nationalist government billed the 24-hour visit as an en-

dorsement of independent Croatia under President Franjo Tudjman and its struggle against rebel minority Serbs who opposed its secession from Yugoslavia.

Rebel Krajina Serbs, holding land behind a U.N. truce line as close as 30 kilometres from Zagreb, urged the Pope to condemn Croatian fascist persecution of Serbs in World War II.

Cardinal Franjo Kuharic, Pope John Paul's host, called the visit a gesture of solidarity with independent Croatia and its church but not meant to take partisan sides.

The Pope had hoped to precede his Zagreb visit with a stop in Bosnia's capital Sarajevo but had to cancel because Bosnian Serb forces surrounding the city refuse to assure his safety.

Pope John Paul was due to arrive at 1330 GMT and drive in his special bulletproof white "Popemobile" to the Zagreb cathedral.

On Sunday, the Pope will pay a courtesy call on Mr. Tudjman at the presidential mansion before celebrating mass at a Zagreb racetrack and elsewhere in Eastern Europe.

10 killed in Rwanda shooting

KIGALI (Agencies) — Ten civilians were killed in a shootout in a Rwandan border town in an area where the U.N. fears troops of the defeated Hutu government are regrouping.

A U.N. military spokesman said Saturday that neither U.N. peacekeepers nor soldiers of the new Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) government were involved in the shooting Friday in Cyangugu on the border with Zaire.

"This was strictly between locals," Major Jean-Guy Plante told reporters in the capital Kigali.

"We are not ruling out anything but the immediate conclusion of the troops in the area was this was a case of banditry."

Ten people were killed and two wounded in the incident. In a separate incident, 80 bullets were fired at a Rwandan hydroelectric power station near Cyangugu Friday from inside Zaire in what appeared to be a sabotage attempt.

"Though there was no damage done, they appeared to be trying to damage the tower and the electricity lines," Maj. Plante said.

In a report leaked to journalists Thursday, U.N. envoy Shaharyar Khan said U.N. troops had spotted armed men in military fatigues crossing into Rwanda from Zaire and Burundi apparently in

preparation for guerrilla warfare with the RPF.

The RPF, dominated by Rwanda's Tutsi minority, seized power in July. Hutu government troops fled across the border into eastern Zaire following three months of civil war in which they and death squads massacred an estimated one million people, mostly Tutsis.

Mr. Khan will fly to Zairean border town of Goma Monday for talks with Zairean authorities on how to prevent defeated Rwandan soldiers launching a second civil war from Zairean soil, officials said.

Aid workers and the RPF have said elements of the former army and Hutu militia have been training in a Zairean military camp at Shinganga, 60 kilometres from the border with Rwanda.

Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko told the United Nations and Rwanda's new president in July the Rwandan troops would be disarmed and isolated in camps separate from civilian refugees.

Zaire has denied reports the ousted army was regrouping with the aid of authorities there and preparing to invade Rwanda.

The defeated army still has arms including anti-aircraft guns, four helicopters, heavy machineguns, grenades and

tonnes of ammunition, and its troops have been paid four-month advance salaries.

Aid workers said Saturday they suspected RPF involvement in the torture and killing of two civilians in Kigali Friday. A third torture victim was found alive and was being treated in King Faisal Hospital in Kigali.

The victims were found by U.N. troops on a rubbish dump near Kigali Airport and had been badly beaten and cut with machetes.

One aid worker said she had been told by local residents that RPF soldiers had been seen in the vicinity of the rubbish dump just before the bodies and the third man were discovered.

Tens of thousands of Rwandan refugees already weak from hunger and disease faced a new scourge Friday: African rain.

It poured for three hours in Goma, home for 1.2 million Hutu refugees who fled their country after a vicious civil war that left at least a half-million people dead.

The torrential rain flooded refugees' tiny grass, bamboo and mud structures that dot the camps in eastern Zaire.

Lava on the surface added to the misery because it stopped water from soaking into the earth. The lava is from the nearby Nyiragongo volcano, which erupted in 1977, spewing lava as far as 10

kilometres (6 miles).

Zairean mobs killed two government soldiers Saturday and hijacked a relief vehicle, prompting the United Nations to warn 700 foreign aid workers to avoid two districts in Goma.

According to witnesses, the trouble started when Zairean mobs spotted two soldiers killing a civilian who had refused to pay them bribes. The mob caught the soldiers, hanged one of them on an electric pole and stoned the other to death, according to U.N. radio reports.

The mob then tied one soldier to a car and dragged him through the city.

"We are taking all precautions and I have advised my staff to avoid the troubled districts," said U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Field Director Filippo Grandi.

During the melee, a vehicle owned by World Vision, a U.S.-based aid agency, was stopped by the mob and hijacked.

"I felt so close to death, the mob came and asked us to get out," said Jaime Antonio, a World Vision aid worker from Mozambique. "I realised the only way to safety was to leave."

"The mob ordered the driver, a Zairean, to drive on," said Mr. Antonio, who managed to take shelter in the UNHCR building.

Robaina announces Cuban economic reforms

MADRID (Agencies) — Cuba will soon introduce economic reforms but political parties will not be legalised, Cuba's foreign minister said in an interview published Saturday by the Spanish daily El Pais.

Roberto Robaina said in an interview granted before the Cuban-U.S. agreement on the current emigration crisis that Cuba's democracy "is not perfect and will undergo deep changes."

But, he said, "Cuba already experimented with political pluralism and it was the period in which we were more threatened than ever."

Talking of Cuban leader Fidel Castro, he said "the Cuban revolution has meant so much that it does not just depend on one person. In addition to which, Fidel is not an obstacle to reforms but is the one behind them."

Mr. Robaina, who has been on an official visit to Spain since Wednesday, has met three members of the moderate opposition. The talks with Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, Alfredo Duran and Ramon Cernuda "was not just for show," he said.

He said the only condition the Cuban government had made prior to meeting the opponents was that "they should be people who condemned the embargo."

Meanwhile, nearly 100 members of organisations to the Castro regime demonstrated Saturday outside the Cuban embassy in Madrid.

They said they were sceptical over the agreement between Washington and Havana to end the "balseros" crisis — the illegal exodus of Cubans from their homeland.



Crewmen from the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Nantuxet lift a Cuban woman to safety after her raft was spotted approximately 15 miles off the coast of Cuba. The woman will be sent with other Cuban refugees picked up at sea to the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (AFP photo)

The accord reached after a week of negotiations calls for expanded legal immigration of Cubans into the United States, with Havana agreeing to take action to stop emigrants from leaving illegally on makeshift boats and rafts.

The accord allows legal immigration of at least 20,000

the government of Cuba to take effective measures to prevent unsafe departure of Cuban citizens," the White House said in a statement, released in New Orleans where President Bill Clinton was making a speech.

"This agreement, when carried out, will help insure that the massive flow of dangerous and illegal migration will be replaced by a safer, legal and more orderly process," Mr. Clinton said in the statement.

Cuba agreed that arrangements could be made through diplomatic channels for the repatriation of "those Cubans who have recently left and wish to return."

Refugees intercepted at sea by American naval forces have been taken to the U.S. military base at Guantanamo, Cuba. They have not been allowed to return.

Talks in New York between Cuba and the United States had resumed Friday, after having been suspended Wednesday when both sides returned to their capitals for consultations.

Cuba wanted the United States to commit to future talks on the 32-year-old U.S. economic embargo, which Mr. Castro's government blames for causing the economic hardship that is driving Cubans to flee. The United States said it would only discuss putting in place an orderly, legal process for migration.

The talks began last week after thousands of Cubans took to the seas in almost any craft that would float in order to escape Cuba and in hopes of reaching U.S. shores.

Liberian warlords join ceasefire call

AKOSOMBO, Ghana (R) — Two more of Liberia's top three warlords Saturday joined Charles Taylor in accepting Ghana's call for an immediate halt to their country's civil war, but reports of widespread chaos inside Liberia suggested they might be unable to honour their pledges.

Alhaji Kromah, head of the Ulino militia's mainstream faction, told reporters he had ordered his men to cease fire.

"I have called on my troops who are involved in fighting to lay down their arms in the cause of peace," he said.

General Hezekiah Bowen said his Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) were not engaged in combat "at the moment" and so made a more general endorsement of Ghana's demand.

"I support the call by the

Ghanaian government for an unconditional ceasefire and appeal to all those involved in any fighting now to stop," he said.

Ghana, hosting talks between Liberia's warring factions in its role as current chairman of the economic community of West African States, on Friday demanded an immediate halt to the fighting which began in December 1989.

Shortly afterwards Mr. Taylor convened a news conference and told reporters he was heeding Ghana's call.

"We are calling a ceasefire and will be ordering our forces to cease firing unilaterally, through these talks and hopefully into the weeks, months and years to come," he said.

But as he spoke there were reports from at least one independent source in the Liberian capital, Monrovia,

that Mr. Taylor's men had been driven from his inland capital at Gbarnga.

A senior aid official confirmed that there had been fierce fighting in Gbarnga Friday but he could not say who won.

"In terms of who is controlling what, we just don't know," he told Reuters.

It was unclear if the attackers were dissidents from Mr. Taylor's own National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), a coalition of enemy militias who have been drawing closer to Gbarnga over the past two weeks or an alliance of the renegades and the coalition.

The aid official said fighting was not confined to Gbarnga but was sweeping across Liberia.

"It's all over the country, it seems that there has just been a total breakdown of law and order," he said.

Over 70 killed in Burundi church attack

BUJUMBURA (R) — At least 70 people were killed in an attack almost a week ago on a Catholic Church in Burundi as ethnic violence continued to escalate, the Red Cross said Saturday.

"People are being killed here almost every day now. Nobody claims responsibility for the attacks, it's just speculation from both sides and rumours," Daniel Philippin, chief of delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Bujumbura, told Reuters.

He said details of last Sunday's attack during a baptismal mass at the church at Buhinyuza commune in the northeastern province of Muringa were filtering out and it was now known that of the 70 dead, 60 were women and children.

He said it was not clear who was responsible. Previous official reports on the incident spoke of nine dead.

Burundi has the same ethnic make-up as neighbouring Rwanda which has gone through one of the worst tribal bloodlettings in history, with more than a million Tutsi and moderate Hutu massacred by militant Hutu tribesmen.

Other aid workers with operations in the north of the country said the church attack followed the replacement of the former bishop, a member of the Tutsi minority which ruled the country for three decades until last year, with a Hutu bishop.

The bishop has told reporters that the victims were both Tutsi and Hutu, but the majority were Hutu.

The new details on the massacre came after state radio said three people had died of injuries suffered in a grenade attack on the crowded central market in the capital Bujumbura at midday Friday. At least 76 people were wounded.

Residents said shooting was heard overnight in the capital.

Diplomats and aid workers say the grenade had become the weapon of choice



The crew of the space shuttle Discovery leaves the Operations and Checkout building on their way to launch pad 39-B at the Kennedy Space Centre. (Front L-R) Pilot Blaine Hammond,

Com. Richard Richards, (2nd L-R) Mark Lee, Jerry Linenger, (Rear L-R) Carl Meade and Susan Helms (AFP photo)

Space shuttle blasts off after setback

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AFP) — The space shuttle Discovery blasted off late Friday after clouds and wind forced a nearly two hour delay for the science and spacewalking mission.

Discovery roared into the air over the Kennedy Space Centre at 6:22 p.m. (2222 GMT).

The countdown for the 4:30 p.m. (2030 GMT) liftoff was held at the nine-minute

tics and Space Administration (NASA) officials waited for a clear shot.

The launch delay comes on the heels of last month's emergency shutdown of Endeavour 1.9 seconds before blastoff.

That shutdown came at a time during the launch process when any failure could be extremely dangerous for the crew.

Tests conducted on the

grounded Endeavour's engines theoretically eliminated any risk of the same problem occurring on Discovery, NASA said.

The six-member Discovery crew waited inside the spaceship for launch sequence to recommence.

The team is to conduct a series of experiments on the nine-day mission, which will feature the first untethered space walk in 10 years.

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Dinar no more under pressure

THE JORDANIAN dinar came under pressure during the first half of 1994. The main reason is believed to be the conversion of part of the West Bank's stock of Jordanian dinars due to the political uncertainty arising from an extremely fluid situation following Palestinian self-rule. The result was the reduction of foreign exchange reserves of the Central Bank by up to \$400 million.

This negative trend, which caused uneasiness in Jordanian political circles, was halted in the first week of July, before it was completely reversed. The demand on Jordan dinars rose since then, and dollars started to flow back to the Central Bank of Jordan. The reserves in foreign exchange at the Central Bank rose during July and August by some \$120 million. The flow of dollars continued and intensified. Some analysts believe that the Central Bank may recover all or most of the lost reserves before the end of this year.

During this difficult period, the Central Bank remained calm and acted normally, because it realised that any behaviour with no real economic justification may not be sustainable. In fact, the rush against the Jordan dinar all but vanished. The Jordan dinar came out of this test with coloured banners simply because the fundamentals of the Jordanian economy were sound and the fiscal performance was in accordance with the plan.

When the Jordanian dinar was under pressure, the Central Bank responded by indirectly raising interest rate on the JD through allowing interest rate on the treasury notes acquired by banks to rise from 3.5 per cent to close to 7 per cent. Thus the interest rate on the JD remained above the interest rate on the dollar. There was no benefit, in terms of interest, if speculators shift from JDs to dollars. The Central Bank, as a matter of policy, will keep interest rate on the JD at least two percentage points above the interest rate on the dollar.

Banks expanded extensively in lending, so much so that

the bank's credit facilities extended to the private sector during the last 12 months rose by almost 20 per cent, while banks' deposits grew by a mere 4 per cent. Therefore, excess liquidity maintained by the banking system declined sharply. The expected strong competition among banks to attract deposits will push interest rates on the JD higher, and will make banks more selective in granting new credit to potential borrowers. It is expected that the whole scale of interest rates on the JD will rise by a further one percentage point before the end of 1994.

One of the main reasons why credit facilities were growing out of proportion is that companies and businessmen in the private sector exploit the loopholes in the current income tax law, which exempts interest received from banks while at the same time accepts interest paid to the banks as part of the cost deductible for tax purposes. It was natural that businessmen found it more beneficial to deposit their own funds in banks and generate an exempted income while financing their businesses by borrowing, because paid interest is deductible before arriving at the net income subject to tax.

The Ministry of Finance became aware of this loophole, and thought of an amendment — so that interest received by, and interest paid to the same taxpayer should be offset against each other. Only the excess of interest received can be exempted from tax, or the excess of interest paid can be deducted. The companies and businessmen will thus be given an incentive to use their own funds in financing their investments before resorting to banks for funds.

Part of those who initiated the outcry against the recommended amendments are those who are working with borrowed money while making deposits with banks. In certain cases the deposits were used as a collateral for obtaining the loans, a trick which is costly for the treasury and harmful to the economy and should not be allowed to stand.

In steps they move

SYRIA'S OUTRIGHT rejection of Israel's latest peace offer was expected since the offer was based on partial and phased withdrawal from the Golan Heights. Damascus is already on record as refusing any drawn out Israeli withdrawal from its occupied territories, especially when it does not entail a clear-cut commitment from the start for a complete evacuation of the heights and the dismantling of the 31 Jewish settlements there.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has presented his latest initiative with much fanfare in anticipation of the impending visit to the region by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

But there has been persistent reports that Syria and Israel are edging closer than ever to a peace deal that could be reached by the end of this year. Thus Mr. Rabin's most recent formula cannot be viewed as his government's last word on peace terms with Syria.

It appears that the Israeli government is jockeying for the best bargaining position in anticipation of more significant give and take on the Israeli-Syrian track. Mr. Rabin apparently is also seeking to sell the idea of an inevitable Israeli withdrawal from the Syrian heights, occupied in 1967 and annexed in 1981, to his people on a gradual basis. The three-year phased Israeli withdrawal suggested by Mr. Rabin is in effect no different from earlier offers since they are all based on the proposition that Israel needs a grace period to test Syria's true intentions, towards it and how far Syrian President Hafez Al Assad is willing to go in normalising his country's relations with the Jewish state.

It is no wonder Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa's reply to the Israeli peace plan was quick and unequivocal. Syria seeks a quick Israeli withdrawal as much as it needs a clear Israeli pledge to rescind its annexation of the heights and withdraw from them as soon as possible. Damascus is of course right in demanding that Israel clarify its ultimate intentions on withdrawal. There is really no reason for any more foot dragging on this. Instead, the two sides must work on a package deal comprising all the elements that concern them. If Mr. Rabin accepts to withdraw from the heights completely in return for a complete and full peace with Syria, he can do so in one step instead of several steps. In the final analysis, the gap between the two positions is indeed bridgeable if there is a genuine desire on the part of Israel to proceed with its peace negotiations with Syria with full speed.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Saturday criticised the organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers meeting in Islamabad for failing to rally behind Muslim nations facing injustice and oppression. The OIC foreign ministers have failed to utter a single word in defence of the besieged Iraqi people and failed to utter a single statement in condemnation of the current U.S.-Zionist drive to distort the image of Islam world wide, said Tareq Masarweh.

All the Muslim nations could do, he said, was voicing their dismay over the situation on Bosnia, simply because the United States itself is not happy about the situation there. The Muslim foreign ministers showed indifference to the Muslims plight in Afghanistan and the oppressed Muslim nations who face unknown future under Russian domination in the former Soviet Union's territory, said the columnist. But those Muslim nations rallied behind the United States and Israel in condemning the perpetrators of the bomb blast at a Jewish centre in Buenos Aires, succumbing to U.S.-Zionist pressures, he continued. The writer said that the Muslim nations are openly and shamefully accepting U.S.-Zionist hegemony and doing themselves and their 1000 million Muslim inhabitants injustice and harming their own national interests.

IT IS a pity to see and hear Western and former Eastern bloc countries unilaterally ending their hostile attitude towards Iraq and concluding trade agreements with Baghdad at a time when the Arab countries continue to show passive attitude towards their kinsmen, said Mohammad Kawash, a columnist in Al Dustour Saturday. Major companies in the West and other parts of the world and in the Arab world are rushing to sign trade agreements with Iraq, he said. He added that the embargo at a time when Arab states close to Iraq and those which took a part in the war on the Iraqi people self-determined to maintain the sanctions on the Iraqi people for selfish reasons, said Mr. Kawash. It should be stressed that thousands of innocent Iraqi children are dying due to the lack of proper medicine and sufficient food supplies, he added.



The United Nations should prepare for the borderless world ahead

By Koji Kakizawa

TOKYO — The United Nations may have suffered from low expectations during the cold war, but today the world expects much more of it. The end of the cold war, I believe, will transform or even end the traditional nation-state system. To adapt, the United Nations will have to implement a number of measures.

The new world order that will emerge as the nation-state loses its relevance in the next century will be more highly integrated — economically, politically and culturally. There will be movement, as some have predicted, towards a single "borderless economy."

And the trend towards political integration will continue, as suggested by the proliferation of successful regional organisations like the European Union (EU).

Historically, there have been two prerequisites for integration among nations. The first is a sharing of values; the second is the existence of a common task. Both requirements will be satisfied in the world of the 21st century. Today, most nations are bound together by a common desire for pluralistic democracy, and by the need for international cooperation to tackle such global problems as population growth, nuclear proliferation, environmental degradation, drug-related social problems and regional conflicts.

Only the United Nations can provide a forum for sharing and co-ordinating efforts to deal adequately with this new situation, the U.N. itself will first require reform. It must be given the power to address global

threats effectively and it must become a forum where the shared ideal of pluralistic democracy is promoted.

How can we do this? How are we to make the U.N. more effective in the transformation away from the nation-state system?

First, the U.N. should support the establishment of democratic governments by providing greater assistance for the holding of free and fair elections. Towards this end, the Electoral Assistance Unit of the U.N. Secretariat should be reinforced.

Second, U.N. peacekeeping operations are playing an ever more important role and need proper support to continue in that direction. The successful elections in Namibia, Cambodia and El Salvador testify to the essential role of the peacekeepers' election-monitoring and observation units. Civilian participation is becoming increasingly important. I therefore suggest the endorsement of a memorial medal honouring the contributions of the civilian participants.

Third, the long-awaited post of U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights needs adequate support and resources. The protection of human rights can be assured only if a multitude of conditions prevails. These include political stability, established legal procedures, an ample number of jurists, wide public awareness of the importance of human rights, economic development and a rise in living standards. These conditions demand considerable effort over time.

To facilitate change, the U.N. must offer advisory

activities to establish due process of law. Public information programmes are important. A strong, permanent secretariat will be needed; close coordination among the relevant U.N. agencies is crucial. I would propose that the U.N. Centre for Human Rights be given enhanced resources and that the coordinating role of the High Commissioner for Human Rights within the U.N. system be consolidated.

Several reforms are needed in the United Nations. The Security Council should be a focus of these reforms, though remedies are also needed in the economic and cultural fields. The dramatic increase in the number of member-states and the emergence of new powers with influence equal to those of the Security Council's permanent members means the Council's legitimacy and credibility must be ensured unless its decisions reflect the general will of the members.

The newer global powers should be encouraged to take a more active role in efforts to ensure world peace and stability. Japan has the will and capacity to do so.

The Security Council should also better represent the international community by increasing the number of nonpermanent members and redressing the imbalance in the geographical distribution of nonpermanent seats.

UNESCO, which for almost a half century has sought to contribute to peace through its efforts in educational, scientific and cultural fields, must now tackle new issues. These include disputes between different ethnic and cultural

groups.

Already, through its Culture of Peace Programme, UNESCO is contributing to conflict prevention and post-conflict peace-building efforts. I hope UNESCO's restructured executive board will more effectively address the complex global problems of today's world.

It would be useful to revitalise the Economic and Social Council so that it can better focus on urgent issues and achieve better coordination among the agencies, programmes and funds that come under the Security Council's jurisdiction.

Finally, the number of contentious cases submitted by states to the International Court of Justice has increased dramatically. The court, expected to play an increasingly important role in facilitating the peaceful legal disputes. The international community needs to strengthen the court's role by encouraging wider acceptance of its compulsory jurisdiction by the states that are party to the statute of the court.

The new world order will see a gradual erosion of the nation-state system. The yearning among peoples of the world for pluralistic, liberal democracy and a market economy is the basis for this trend. In the meanwhile, each state must attain democracy in its own way. The worldwide movement towards this common goal can be facilitated most appropriately by the United Nations. If it is to fulfil this task, we must encourage the United Nations to continue on its path of reform.

The writer is a former foreign minister of Japan. This comment is reprinted from the International Herald Tribune.

Is peacekeeping working?

By Nicholas Doughty
Reuter

LONDON — U.N. peacekeepers are in action in flashpoints around the world, Russian and U.S. troops are on joint manoeuvres and NATO is gearing up for its first exercise with former foes in Eastern Europe next week.

Peacekeeping has become a growth industry in an increasingly chaotic post-cold war atmosphere, with politicians proclaiming a new age of cooperation to quell conflicts.

But, behind the showcase military exercises, tough questions remain unanswered about who should be in charge, how operations should be organised and even what "peacekeeping" actually means.

Several bodies are competing to set the agenda, chiefly the United Nations and, in Europe, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

The U.N. and NATO have already clashed over how to deal with Bosnia and the U.N. has also run into problems with operations in Somalia and Rwanda.

Russia, meanwhile, is pushing for a mandate to look after peacekeeping in troubled former Soviet republics, arguing that no one else cares enough to take action.

But some of those republics and Western nations are suspicious of Moscow's intentions. Russia, on the other hand, is wary of NATO's desire for a new peacekeeping role.

If there is any agreement, it is that peacekeeping now means much more than posting a few hundred lightly armed troops with blue berets to help maintain a ceasefire already agreed between warring parties — its traditional sense.

Peacekeepers have been in combat in Bosnia and Somalia but the question of when and whether they should be equipped with a mandate to impose a solution or to disarm warring factions is complicated and controversial.

Diplomats say the key problem in making peacekeeping work is whether nations, especially major military powers like the United States, can summon the political will to get involved in an age of shrinking defence budgets.

The United Nations has had trouble getting contributions for its operations in Bosnia, Somalia and Rwanda and it has often taken months for the troops to arrive — too little, too late.

It was only when the United States decided to move into Somalia that others followed suit. Despite the slaughter in Rwanda, others waited until France took the risk of sending in troops to protect civilians before they offered to contribute.

"The current system... routinely reacts to crisis through improvisation,"

the former head of U.N. operations in Somalia, Mohammad Saboun, wrote in a recent book on his experience.

The United States, disillusioned by its costly failure in Somalia, drew up a peacekeeping doctrine earlier this year which imposes strict limits on when Washington might commit forces to such operations in the future.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali has proposed setting up a standing force as a way of avoiding such problems but many countries are reluctant to give up national control over even a small part of their armed forces.

A former British ambassador to the United Nations, Anthony Parsons, wrote recently that the standing force was needed but that the U.N. would still be ill-equipped to deal with major operations where force would be needed.

"When the going gets rough, the U.N.'s role will remain marginal unless it delegates full authority to a great power, as it did to America during the 1991 Gulf crisis, or to a cohesive military alliance such as NATO," Mr. Parsons writes.

U.N. members currently owe almost two billion dollars in peacekeeping dues and diplomats say the organisation, which now has 80,000 personnel in more than a dozen operations worldwide, lacks the structure to run a major combat mission.

The trouble is that, except in Europe, there is no other organisation which can help share the U.N. burden.

In Bosnia, the United Nations has turned to the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation for help in backing up its efforts to stop the killing with the threat of force.

But this uneasy tandem, including a dual command system that NATO's military dislikes, has caused friction. Similar problems arose in Somalia, where the U.N. operation was run in parallel with a U.S. command structure.

In any case, critics question whether NATO is best suited to the nuances and restrictions of peacekeeping operations.

A report issued by the British-American Security Information Council (BASIC) this week said NATO favoured a traditional military approach which was not always appropriate.

Calling for a major rethink of how peacekeeping is organised, the report argued that NATO nations, led by the United States, were driven only by their own interests.

"The world wants a U.N. policeman," the report said. "But it is being given a private security company called NATO which only responds to the alarm when its leading shareholders call."

LETTERS

'A problem with the snobs'

To the Editor:

I WAS under the impression that tolerance of others' opinions was a part of what democracy is all about. I did not feel from E. Yaghi's recent article (Jordan Times Aug. 25) that she has a problem accepting the "natives", but rather that she has a problem accepting snobs, which come in all nationalities, as I am sure you will agree.

If you have been reading her column regularly, you have to admit that E. Yaghi has been a champion for the plight of natives in many scenarios — the poor, the weak, the downtrodden, and the oppressed.

This is the first of a series of articles on the impressions that the writer got during a recent 10-day stay in the Republic of Yemen.

By P. V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

HAVING RESOUNDINGLY fought off a secessionist war in the south, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh is waging a much more intensive battle for elusive victory on the political front and putting Yemen on course towards much-needed political and economic reforms.

The challenges facing President Saleh are immense, and solutions are not easy in a tribal society trying to adapt to the requirements of a modern forward-looking country handicapped by decades of executive inefficiency and a multitude of political and social priorities that existed only on paper.

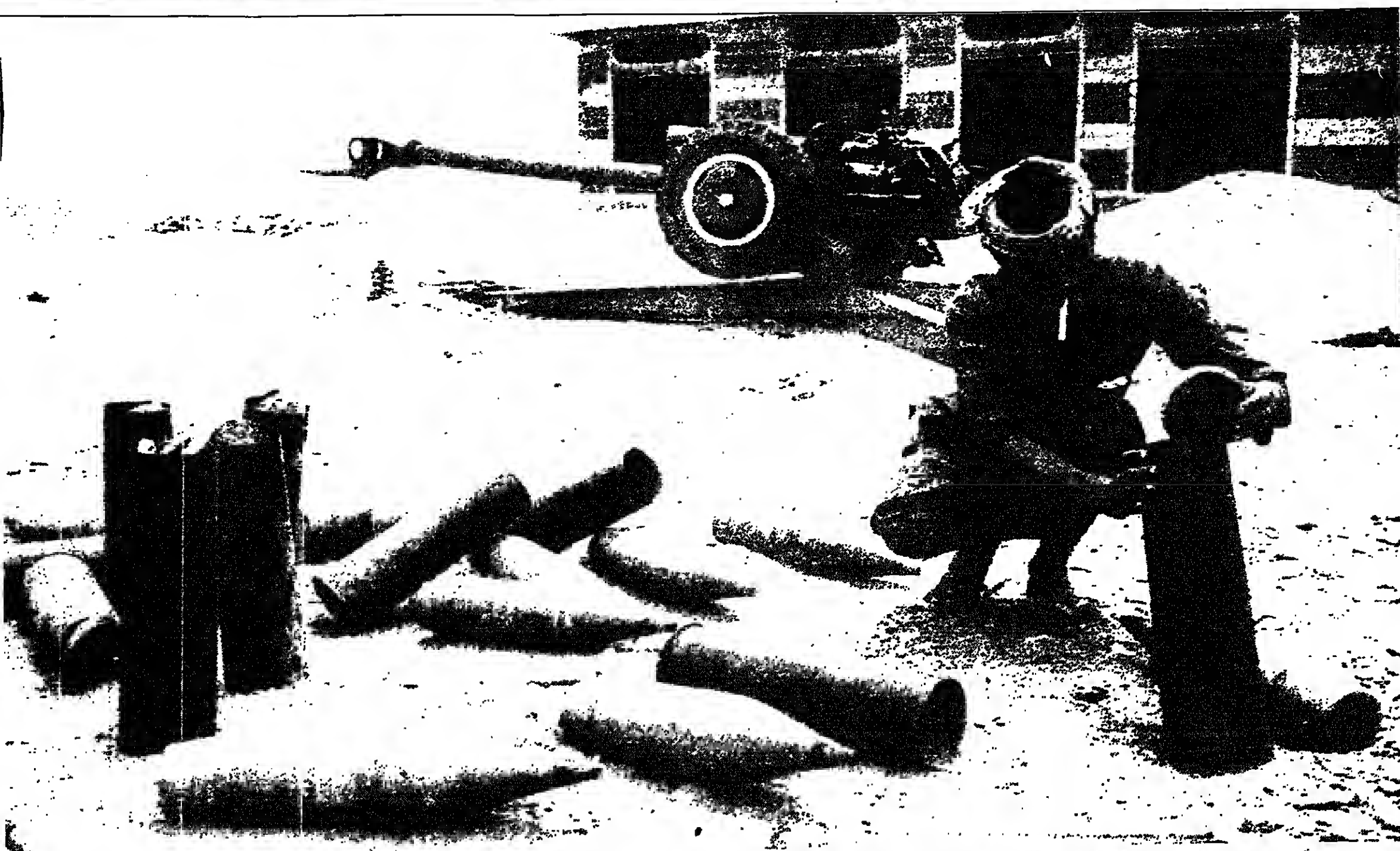
Indeed, his military victory against the southern secessionists in the two-month civil war that ended in July has strengthened President Saleh's hands; but the political price that he is being asked to pay for that victory could be too steep for him.

For one, the mainstream Islamic Party, Al Islah, which has 62 seats in the 301-strong national assembly elected in united Yemen's first general elections in April last year, is demanding a clear-cut, two-party coalition government with President Saleh's General People's Congress (GPC), which has 131 members in parliament.

Agreeing to the Islah demand would essentially deprive the president of any immediate hope of reconciling with the southerners, whose Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) is technically the second-largest party in parliament with 68 seats.

Seventeen of the 68 went into exile following the civil war. A majority of those still in the country are, for all practical purposes, pro-unionists and support President Saleh. As such, the GPC thinking favours inclusion of the YSP in a coalition.

Including the YSP in government is of paramount importance to President Saleh not also because that is the only way he could hope to eventually reconcile with southerners who remain fiercely opposed to the northern-based government's direct control of the south, but also because that would help him offset the Al Islah presence in the executive authority.



WINNING THE PEACE: After defeating his southern opponents in the battlefield, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh faces the challenge of maintaining stability in a land where opposition is still active (AFP photo)

Yemen in the throes of a political battle

That is easier said than done.

Al Islah had made no secret of its push to obliterate the existence of the socialists, who steadfastly resisted Muslim fundamentalists' attempts to spread its own brand of political Islam to the southern provinces of Yemen before and after the Marxist-rule South Yemen merged with the conservative North Yemen in May 1990.

Sheikh Abdul Majid Zindani, the effective Al Islah leader and member of a five-member Presidential Council that Mr. Saleh heads, has publicly stated his ambitions to head an Islamic movement that embraces the more than

one billion Muslims of the world.

For a start, he would like to enforce Islamic law in Yemen and set an example at home for what he sees as his worldwide audience. And the southern port city of Aden is apparently the best place for him to launch his efforts.

Today, the well-armed Al Islah fighters, who joined government forces in the fight against the secessionists and entered Aden and its suburbs when it fell on July 7, are very much present in the port city. They are implementing their own Islamic law and move ruthlessly against anyone who stands in their way.

Banning alcohol and enforcing strict Islamic code of dress for women are perhaps the mildest punishment for Adenis when compared with the summary "open-ended leave" given to senior-level women officials in government by Al Islah officials who replaced southerners after the city was taken over by government forces in July.

Grappling with the chaos of war which have skyrocketed prices and created large-scale unemployment, residents of Aden have, for the moment, put off their political priorities to tackle their immediate problems in daily life.

However, the high-handed Al Islah approach

has not helped President Saleh's efforts to reconcile them to the concept of a central government exercising full authority in the southern central governorates. But the Sanaa government... faces the delicate problem of how to confront Al Islah and influence it to scale down its activities in the south as the first step to gain the confidence of southerners.

It is unlikely that the Al Islah hardliners consolidating their religious grip on the south would back down through diplomacy; and an open confrontation with Al Islah is the last thing that President Saleh's GPC wants, particularly that the party wants what many in

Sanaa describe as a "nationalist coalition representing all shades of the political spectrum."

So everything is on the hold at present for the Saleh government in the south. That also explains why the government forces are not interfering with the free run of the Islamists in Aden. But a confrontation could come soon, not necessarily of a major military nature, once a government is formed in Sanaa to replace a caretaker cabinet formed after the civil war.

As President Saleh is holding extended sessions with politicians and activists at his place on the fringes of Sanaa to meet a reported

Sept. 15 deadline to form a government, senior officials describe the very Al Islah presence in the coalition as an asset rather than a burden.

"It is much better to have them inside the house arguing rather than throwing stones at us from outside" was how a senior government official put Sanaa's approach to Al Islah. "In any event, they are very much part of the Yemeni society and political system and we resent the foreign approach which sees Al Islah as a threat to Yemen."

A meeting of the YSP leadership attended by nearly 40 of the 51 of the

party members in parliament last week did issue statements and resolutions distancing themselves from the secessionist attempts and calling for national unity.

This was seen as carefully orchestrated efforts by pro-Saleh elements in the party to prepare the ground for a YSP entry into the cabinet. However, many YSP members feel that no matter what they do, it is unlikely that Al Islah would agree to have the socialist represented in government.

"We could go into opposition just as we could enter the government," said Yahya Mansour Al Asba, a YSP member of parliament.

Sayeh pays tribute to Jordan

(Continued from page 1)
Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in Gaza and Jericho.

The sources could not provide any reason for the delay in PNA approval for the respected Sheikh to enter and take up residence in Arab East Jerusalem, the Holy City whose status is expected to be discussed in 1996 under the Sept. 13 Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation self-rule agreement.

Sheikh Sayeh is a strong critic of the autonomy accord.

Later Saturday, Petra said Sheikh Sayeh had re-

ceived a rejection of his request to go back to Jerusalem. No reason was given for the rejection; Petra did not say where the denial came from.

It quoted Sheikh Sayeh as saying "this decision was a shock" for him, especially that he had already prepared to leave Sunday to the Holy City.

The rejection has, he said, had prevented him from having his "dream to return come true."

He was anxiously awaiting approval for his return home and he would head for Jerusalem as soon as he receives the approval.

Palestinian polls in November

(Continued from page 1)

the West Bank and Gaza Strip within seven months to choose a council that would run the Palestinian territories.

Israel says the PLO must first agree on details for the elections before any step is taken towards holding the poll.

Palestinians accuse Israel of stalling on starting the talks.

Labour MKs want changes

(Continued from page 1)

back from the Golan.

"We did not define any final line and of course we can not... withdraw our intention to announce our intention before conducting negotiations," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told army radio on Saturday.

Three-year-old peace talks between Israel and Syria have been deadlocked over Syria's demand for a full

Syrian commitment to normalisation including open borders, embassies and trade before discussing the final boundary between the two countries.

At least eight of the ruling Labour Party's 44 parliament members are opposed to a substantial pull back on the Golan.

The party's 1992 election platform refers to territorial compromise on the Golan,

By Sid Moody
The Associated Press

ON THE ROAD to victory in World War II, the Allies in September 1944 stumbled in Europe and took a detour in the Pacific.

In Holland, the Anglo-Canadian-American armies tried to leapfrog the Rhine River into Germany at Arnhem — a "bridge too far."

In the jungles and coral labyrinths of Peleliu 805 kilometres east of the Philippines, Marine and army troops fought one of the war's bloodiest battles for an islet some commanders even at the time thought was unnecessary.

After two months of the costliest fighting proportionately of the Pacific war against Japan, Peleliu was hardly of any use subsequently. Conversely, the nearby atoll of Ulithi, abandoned by Japan without a fight, became a major staging base.

Gen. Omar Bradley, commander of American ground forces in Europe, was stunned when his British counterpart, Field Marshal Sir Bernard Law Montgomery, whose caution infuriated his allies, proposed a parachute attack to seize the Rhine bridge at Arnhem.

"Had the pious, teetotaling Montgomery wobbled into (headquarters), I would not have been more astonished," Gen. Bradley wrote.

But Gen. Bradley bought the plan, as did the supreme Allied commander, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. (Eisenhower's biographer, Stephen E. Ambrose, called it "his worst error of the war.")

Lt. Gen. Frederick

Browning told Montgomery the British 1st Airborne Division — the Red Devils — could hold four days until relief arrived at his bridgehead from the south. "But I think, sir, we may be going a bridge too far."

The U.S. 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, in reserve since parachuting into Normandy on D-Day, were to open a pathway for the British XXX Corps led by Lt. Gen. Brian Horrocks to drive to Arnhem. But the single road crossed five rivers and easily flooded flatland. And there had been only a week to prepare Operation Market Garden.

Although the Germans had been routed from France after the Allied breakout in Normandy, they were still a formidable fighting force, all the more so as the enemy approached their fatherland.

ULTRA, the ingenious code-breaking machinery devised by the British, indicated German Panzer divisions were near Arnhem. The Dutch underground concurred. British Aerial reconnaissance also found tanks.

The first of 10,000 Red Devils dropped like flower petals from the sky in multi-coloured parachutes and gliders on Sept. 17. The drop was in daylight to avoid the confusion of earlier night assaults on Sicily and Normandy. But the main landing zone was 9.7 kilometres from Arnhem to avoid anti-aircraft guns.

Within six hours, the 82nd Paratroopers made two river crossings and the Screaming Eagles of the 101st secured nine of 11 crossings. But Horrocks' tanks became easy targets for enemy artillery.

Freed from four years of Nazi occupation, the Dutch greeted the invaders with open arms. In the city of Eindhoven, gleeful citizens hugged the Yanks and wrote messages on their tanks, the crowds delaying the advance.

Col. John Frost of the Red Devils had arranged for his golf clubs and dinner jacket to be flown in later. Meanwhile, his outnumbered men were surrounded at the bridge's north end. The other end was captured by Capt. Eric MacKay, who was also cut off. For four days, the 600 British paratroopers fought one of the war's most gallant stands before they were overrun.

Brig. Gen. James Gavin's 82nd Airborne Division spearheaded the drive towards Arnhem. Maj. Julian Cook led 254 men paddling rubber boats with their helmets and rifle huts across the swift Waal River, despite heavy enemy fire that cost half his group. They captured a key bridge only 17.7 kilometres from Arnhem, but German artillery held up Gen. Horrocks, who infuriated the Americans by stopping for tea.

At Arnhem, Maj. Digby Tatbam-Warner ambled through the cannonading with his umbrella, not out of nonchalance but for identification. "I was always forgetting the password."

When the Red Devils were finally overcome, Capt. MacKay told his captors: "It is all over for Germany. I am prepared to take your surrender." He then escaped, was recaptured, escaped again and finally reached friendly

lines.

The main British parachute force never could reach Arnhem despite being reinforced by a jump of Polish soldiers. The Red Devils retreated back across the Rhine with only 2,163 survivors. It had, indeed, been a bridge too far.

Two days before Market Garden and half a world away, Marines of the First Division, victors at Guadalcanal in 1942, landed on the small island of Peleliu after the customary sea-air bombardment. Afterward, Rear Adm. Jesse B. Oldendorf said: "If military leaders... were gifted with the same accuracy of foresight that they are with hindsight, then the assault on Peleliu should never have been attempted."

Peleliu was one of Japan's major Pacific bases, with 13,500 defenders and two airstrips. Capturing it would secure the flank of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's imminent invasion of the Philippines.

Adm. William F. "Bull" Halsey thought Peleliu no danger, but Adm. Chester Nimitz, the navy chief in the Pacific who had targeted Peleliu for months, was not to be dissuaded. He planned to take Japan's big base at Truk, then Yap and Ulithi before joining Gen. MacArthur in an invasion of Mindanao in the southern Philippines.

Actually, the garrisons at Truk and Yap were eventually left to wither on the vine.

Reconnaissance photos indicated Peleliu was low and flat. In reality, the northern half of the six-mile (9.7-kilometre) island was honeycombed with caves that were ingeniously forti-

fied by troops who put death in battle for Emperor Hirohito above all else.

Combat artist Tom Lea rode in with the third wave of invaders. "Jap machine guns lashed the reef with white lines and Marines fell with bloody splashes into the green water. The survivors seemed so slow and small and patient coming in."

In broiling heat and constant enemy fire, the invaders swiftly took the airstrip. They might have stopped then and starved out the enemy. But did not. The Marine credo was constant attack.

Col. Lewis "Chesty" Puller, who won five Navy Crosses in his career, bled his regiment almost to death in repeated attacks on Bloody Nose Ridge and its caves. His regiment suffered 1,672 casualties in nine days — two-thirds its strength. A sergeant called Puller "a sonofabitching butcher."

Long Toms, the corps' biggest cannon at 155mm, were brought up to fire point-blank at the caves. A battery of 75s fired 1,000 rounds at 200 square yards (160 square metres) of the ridge. Marines waited like cats at a mouse hole as an enemy soldier would pop out to fire a shot, then retreat deep into his cave.

Marines sprayed flamethrowers into the caves. "They set out to cook us to death," recalled Sgt. Hiroshi Funasaka, "but inside (the caves) we were attacked by those powerful enemies — hunger, thirst, pain." Asking a medic for something for his gangrene, Sgt. Funasaka was wordlessly given a hand grenade.

Meanwhile, the army's 81st Division invaded the smaller island on Angaur six miles (9.7 kilometres) south of Peleliu, taking it in four days at a cost of 1,500 casualties.

The real prize of operation stalemated was Ulithi, taken by a combat team of the 81st a month after the Japanese abandoned it. The total 350 miles (563 kilometres) to the north was called "one of the great bargains of the war."

Cave by cave, the Marines fought on over the tortured terrain of Peleliu. Corsair fighter planes with bomb racks steadily shuttled off the airstrip to drop their loads before their wheels were even up, then circle back to re-arm.

On Oct. 30, the 81st relieved the Marines. A month later, Col. Kunio Nakagawa radioed Tokyo: "All is over on Peleliu."

Then he dismembered himself with a jeweled dagger.

Of 302 prisoners taken by the Americans, only seven were soldiers. The last Japanese to surrender were Lt. Tadamichi Yamaguchi and his 26 remaining men. That was on April 21, 1947. They had been hiding out more than 2½ years in a cave 100 feet (33 metres) deep, living off U.S. supply dumps. In their cave were kerosene lamps, running water and several boxes of American Kleenex.

Seabees built a field for the big B-29 bombers on Peleliu, made docks and cleared a harbour for hat-donkey and carriers that never came. They were at Ulithi.

The island paid for by 1,794 Marine and army dead was used only as a fuel depot for passing planes.

Forecasters see no recession in U.S. before '97

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy probably will escape another recession for at least two more years, according to forecasters surveyed in a survey released Sunday.

The latest monthly survey of 100 economists and financial analysts by the U.S. Commerce Department would be good news for President Clinton, whose expected second-term bid in 1996 would be boosted by a strong economy.

The economists predicted a recession in the second half of 1996, but the Commerce Department's poll conducted in August predicted a recession in the second half of 1997.

The blue chip forecasters represent banks, businesses, forecasting services, universities and Wall Street firms.

Although the consensus calls for 3.6 per cent expansion for the entire year, it foresees economic growth slowing to a 2.2 per cent annual rate during the quarter ending Sept. 30 and 2.8 per cent from October through December.

The GDP grew at a 3.8 per cent rate in the second quarter and 3.3 per cent in the first.

Much of the slowdown was attributed to five interest-rate increases engineered this year by the Federal Reserve to keep inflation from accelerating.

China statistics found with abuses

BEIJING (AP) — An investigation of official Chinese data has proven the adage that there are lies, damn lies and statistics, uncovering more than 60,000 cases of falsified numbers.

The three-month long probe into the truthfulness of statistics, the first since China implemented a state statistics law 10 years ago, uncovered bad data in a number of the country's key indicators, the official China Daily has said.

"The State Statistics Bureau has warned that some local officials are expert at misreporting information about local grain production and reserves, birth rates, commodity prices and the improvement in farmers' living conditions," it said.

"Fake figures were used in seven major economic sectors including industrial output, grain yield, grain reserves, farmers per capita income, investment in capital construction, inflation and birth rates," the newspaper added.

The newspaper said officials falsified data either to bring glory to themselves and their region by over-emphasizing achievements or to get state aid by exaggerating hardships.

Fiddling with industrial output figures has become rampant among township enterprises, the newspaper quoted officials as saying.

The officials declined comment to the newspaper about whether one key statistic, the output of rural industries, could be relied on.

"All work units at both central and grass-roots levels which interfere with statistics are subject to the on-going inspection," the newspaper said.

It quoted Zhang Sai, director of the State Statistics Bureau, as warning that anyone caught falsifying data would be punished.

Foreign economists and Western diplomats studying the economy generally praise China's official statistics as being extremely professional and competent.

But they emphasize that as the professionals in Beijing have to rely on sometimes suspect raw data sent in from around the country, the extent to which Chinese statistics can be relied upon to make absolute judgements about the economy is unclear.

GCC non-oil sector grew 5% in 1993 — report

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The non-oil sector in six Arab Gulf states grew by an average five per cent in 1993 as governments pursued economic reforms to offset low oil prices, according to a former World Bank expert.

Growth is expected to continue this year, extending a steady increase over the past 15 years, Louis Hubeika said in a study published in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper Al Khaleej.

A breakdown, quoting World Bank and Gulf sources, showed the non-oil sector grew by 4.2 per cent in Saudi Arabia, five per cent in Kuwait, seven per cent in Oman, four per cent in Qatar, six per cent in Bahrain, and 4.5 per cent in the UAE.

The six states make up the 13-year-old Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which controls more than 40 per cent of the world's proven crude reserves and produces around 20 per cent of the total world oil supply.

Mr. Hubeika gave no figures for the total GCC Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1993 but according to the UAE central bank, it stood in current prices at around \$204.8 billion in 1992 and \$181.3 billion in 1991.

The oil sector contributed \$73 billion in 1992, accounting for around 35 per cent. This compares with 62.5 per cent in 1980, indicating the oil sector is steadily losing ground to other sectors.

GCC states have launched drives to develop their non-oil sector and diversify their economies. The focus has been on the industrial sector as other sectors like farming and tourism are limited given their desert land.

The drive picked up after oil prices began to decline in the mid-1980s, pushing their revenues to around \$65 billion in 1993 compared with more than \$180 billion in 1981, when prices were above \$30 a barrel.

As prices continued to languish at below \$20, most of them have announced privatisations and other reform programmes.

"GCC states will likely continue this policy of depending more on the private sector so it will become the driving force in industrial development in the coming period," Mr. Hubeika said in his study.

Arab states urged to step up supervision of banks

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The Arab League's financial chief urged member states Saturday to step up supervision of their banks as part of reforms to prevent further banking crises and bring them into line with international standards on capital adequacy.

Jassim Al Manai, chairman of the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF), said his institution was working with a new Arab auditing committee to ensure all banks in the region meet requirements outlined by the Basic Committee for adequacy, the ratio between shareholders' equity and assets.

"Like those in other developing nations, Arab banking and financial institutions are still in a stage of growth and development and need much work to achieve the required development level," Mr. Manai said. "Since advanced auditing methods help achieve such growth on a solid basis, upgrading and supporting auditing is indispensable in the Arab World."

Mr. Manai, a Bahraini, was speaking at a training course for several Arab financial officials at the Abu Dhabi-based AMF, where they will spend two weeks listening to lectures from experts from the World Bank, Basle Committee and the Bank of England on auditing and other banking activities.

Mr. Manai said it was the second course by the AMF to deal with auditing and capital adequacy, adding it was designed to keep Arab states abreast with the latest auditing techniques and banking operations.

Most Arab states have launched reforms to strengthen the financial position of their banks so they will meet adequacy requirements set by the Basic Committee, which was created by the Bank of International Settlement (BIS) from the central banks of major industrial countries.

Under those requirements, banks worldwide should have an adequacy of a minimum eight per cent to ensure they have enough funds to face a financial crisis. Banks failing to reach that level could be boycotted by industrial states, depriving them of a key financial source.

Reforms in the Arab World gained momentum after recurrent banking crises in Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and other Arab League members.

The biggest crisis was the collapse of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), which was controlled by the UAE emirate of Abu Dhabi before it was shut worldwide in 1991 for allegations of massive fraud.

Arab officials have stressed they would press ahead with the reforms until the Basic Committee drops its classification of them as high risk countries in lending activities.

Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil producer and exporter, was the only Arab member to have been excluded from that classification because it was the fifth biggest creditor of the International Monetary Fund.

Arabs and officials from

other developing nations met with the Basic committee last year for this purpose and they planned more talks to discuss their bank reforms.

The reforms, which include incentives to merging banks, greater supervision and deposit guarantees, have started to produce results in Arab countries. Their banks, numbering almost 350, have recorded growth in most sectors.

Net profits surged to a record \$6 billion in 1992 from around \$4 billion in 1991 and assets peaked \$576 billion compared with \$444 billion. Deposits also soared by 22.5 per cent to \$326 billion and credits by 15 per cent to \$240 billion.

"The Basic decisions will enable banks to face challenges arising from growing international competition," Mr. Manai said. "They also became imperative following repeated bank crises that started to spill into developing nations."

Italy promises pain for tax-evading dentists

ROME (R) — Italy, determined to crack down on tax evasion costing the state some 100 trillion lire (\$65 billion) a year, has singled out dentists as prime suspects — rather than politicians or accountants.

A finance ministry statement said the first group under the fiscal spotlight would be dentists, dental technicians and property managers — a total of 52,015 declared taxpayers. It gave no reason for its choice of professions.

The government has already announced a crackdown on tax evasion which the finance ministry says amounts to about 65 per cent of the country's huge annual budget deficit.

The crackdown is expected to bring in three trillion lire (\$2 billion) this year and 13 trillion lire (\$8.5 billion) in 1995, according to cabinet sources. Total income tax receipts in 1993 totalled some 260 trillion lire (\$170 billion).

The finance ministry statement said that for the first time blanket inspections would be carried out on entire professional categories, instead of the hitherto "Russian roulette" method of spot checks which it said had been "profoundly unsatisfactory."

Dentists are among Italy's top earners. Since they rank as self-employed, they are exempt from pay-as-you-earn taxation. With other self-employed, many often declare surprisingly low incomes. In 1991, the state declared annual income of 65 per cent of dentists was just 48 million lire (\$30,000).

Given the capacity of the country's tax police to make about 500,000 inspections a year, the ministry said it expected to be able to finish its checks on the three professional categories by the beginning of 1995.

After that, the ministry aimed to extend its checks to other salary groups and by a method of "turn-over" to progressively cover the whole of Italian economic activity.

"The just logic is not so much to repress tax evasion, but above all to avoid it," the ministry statement said.

Seoul: Banks must expose bad loans

SEOUL (AFP) — Foreign and local commercial banks here will have to make public large-scale bad loans and financial "incidents" from this month, officials of South Korea's Office of Bank Supervision (OBS) have said.

Under the new regulation, the banks will have to immediately notify the OBS if bad loans exceed more than five per cent of the bank's equity capital and if the value of so-called financial "incidents" account for more than two per cent of equity capital.

"The rule was designed to ensure responsible management by the banks, so that depositors and shareholders' interests can be protected," said Seomoon Yong-Chae, an official at the supervision planning division of the OBS.

The regulations also call on the banks to make periodic announcements of such indicators as capital adequacy ratio, return on assets and the ratio of bad loans to assets, he said.

But banks with low equity capital, of which bad loans stood at less than two billion won (\$2.4 million), and financial scandals involving less than one billion won will be exempt.

Key German figure calls for 'trans-Atlantic free trade zone'

BERLIN (R) — Edzard Reuter, a top German industrialist and potential political leader, called Friday for a "trans-Atlantic free trade zone" linking the European Union (EU) and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Speaking to a German-American business conference, the outgoing chairman of Europe's largest industrial group, Daimler-Benz A.G., said there were infinite advantages to connecting the world's two largest and richest trade blocs.

Mr. Reuter argued that not only would a merger create millions of jobs, he said it would also defuse what he called the rising potential of dangerous global trade disputes flaring up.

"Why should we not muster the courage to undertake a magnificent project, the project of a trans-Atlantic free trade zone?" said Mr. Reuter in a speech to delegates attending a star-studded two-day business conference in the German capital.

Mr. Reuter, a leading figure in the Social Democrat (SPD) Party, has recently dropped loud hints he may pursue a career in politics after he retires from the helm of Daimler in early 1995. Long-rumoured to be a candidate for a cabinet post in a future SPD government, Mr. Reuter has recently made public suggestions that he would like to be Berlin's next mayor.

Talking at length about his idea in his speech, Mr. Reuter observed that the creation of the EU had led to cost savings of almost 40 billion marks (\$25.8 billion) from the elimination of passport and customs formalities alone.

"The positive impact of a trans-Atlantic free trade zone would be far more immense," said Mr. Reuter, whose father Ernst Reuter ranked as one of the most popular west Berlin mayors.

"Tremendous economic dynamics, an upsurge of joint and new progress would be the consequence," he added.

A trans-Atlantic free trade zone would lead to appreciable growth in Europe and in North America as well as increased trans-Atlantic trade, mutual investment, technological progress and the creation of millions of new jobs.

NAFTA, which came into effect earlier this year, links the United States, Canada and Mexico in a free-trade area.

"And above all, at one stroke the causes of dangerous political conflicts which we will long have to grapple with again and again if we do not take this courageous step," Mr. Reuter said.

He said the efforts by the Group of Seven (G-7) for new employment programmes by comparison had had minuscule results, even if they were highly publicised. The G-7 efforts had hardly made any headway in overcoming the trans-Atlantic difficulties, Mr. Reuter said, "because existing obstacles to new economic activity have not been cleared out of the way."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day when a serious and constructive attitude on your part proves helpful. Utilise it to best advantage by tackling those outside tasks you have been putting off for some time.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Concentrate on spiritual matters early in the morning. Assist one who is having a rough time; teach to become more independent in the future.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Be careful in conversations with friends who can easily become irritated. The evening is fine for being with family.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Handle worldly affairs early in the day. Take no risks where your reputation is concerned, otherwise you may have to pay dearly later.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) An idealistic morning, but you may find things tense later. Someone may try to get you to do something which you don't approve of.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You know how to please your mate in the morning, but later can be pressured into other matters. Some credit problem is annoying you.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Situations arise which you can do nothing about, so take it easy and enjoy your favourite pursuits. Drive with utmost care.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have many duties to perform. Conversations with fellow associates could mean trouble. Make the evening a happy one socially.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Although fun is on your mind, your friends are busy. Do something special for your mate. Show more generosity with your loved ones.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Get all those odds and ends taken care of at home and get rid of clutter. If unexpected guests should drop in for the evening, you can relax.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Care in driving is important today as danger lurks everywhere. It may be difficult to communicate with others. Postpone travel plans.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) This is a good day to save money. Take care of any small repairs to property yourself and you will save money and time.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Do something meditative and get out of that confused state of mind you may find yourself in. This is not a good day to be social.

Birthstone, of September: Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli

THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen

THE COMPUTER OPERATOR attributed his bad back to this.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers tomorrow

Answer: What a row of boxes might be called — A PUNCH LINE

Peanuts

Andy Capp

THE Daily Crossword by Janet R. Bender

ACROSS

- Yards and yards
- About half of us
- Smog
- Jargon
- Mr. T's hair
- In the sack
- Broadway production
- Boxer's milieu
- Temperament
- Cy Young winner
- Trade
- Alcohol abuse
- Daughter of Mine
- Civil War soldier
- ML bowing
- Early Pope
- Woodman's tool
- In accordance with law
- Pericles
- Erno, contents
- Loriel, for one
- Warms
- Promote, often
- Soldiers
- unaccounted for
- Actor Beatty
- Cochise site
- Arrage
- More rational
- Came to a stop
- Cy Young winner
- Nobel Prize
- Lange, actress
- Hi-tech communication
- Ramen
- Bruno's sch.
- Goldman
- Strip part
- Victorian
- Went wrong
- Film object
- Prizefighter
- Chang's twin
- Cy Young
- Modern officer
- Cy Young
- Power source
- Dancer Charles
- Hyatt
- Fishy rodents
- Put on
- Out back
- Moon goddess
- Topologist
- Adrian's Esther
- Cartoonist
- MacNelly
- Wingless
- Quack
- Schedule abbr.
- Get a
- Secret
- Concluded

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Pettigrew wins 400 in London

LONDON (AP) — Antonio Pettigrew of the United States won the 400 metres in three years Saturday to take the 400 metres at the World Cup, while Elena Meyer ran one of the fastest 10,000 metres of all time.

Pettigrew, who has struggled to regain the form that won him the world title in 1991, led most of the way and held off Du'aine Ladejo of Britain to win in 45.26 seconds.

"This is a statement saying I'm back," Pettigrew said.

The victory was one of few bright spots for the U.S. team on the second day of the three-day, finals-only team event. Africa led the competition with 86 points. The Americas team had 69 1/2, Europe and Britain were tied with 66, and the United States was fifth with 63.

In the women's competition, Meyer recorded the first-ever victory by a South African athlete in the World Cup's 17-year history, winning the 10,000 in 30 minutes, 52.21 seconds.

It was the fastest time in the world this year and the fourth fastest of all time, but still more than a minute behind Wang Junxia's world record set last year in China.

An hour after Meyer's victory, Okkert Brits became the meet's second South African

winner, taking the men's pole vault in 5.90 metres (19 feet-4 1/4 inches).

The favoured European women's team suffered a surprise defeat when 100-metre hurdler Svetlana Dimitrova of Bulgaria lost for only the second time this year. Unable to overcome a slow start out of the blocks, the European champion was beaten at the line by defending World Cup champion Aluisa Lopez of Cuba, who clocked 12.91 to Dimitrova's 12.95.

Lopez' victory, her first over Dimitrova in nine meetings this season, kept the Americas team within six points of Europe going into the final day. Europe had 79 to the Americas' 73. Germany was third with 56 and a weak U.S. team was eighth and last with 32.

Another European champion, Irina Privalova of Russia, rebounded from defeat in the 200 to take the 100 in 11.32. Privalova, the European champion over both distances, lost to Jamaica's Merlene Ottey over the longer distance in Friday's opening session. Ottey, a last-minute entry for the Americas team, signed up too late to compete in the 100.

Liliana Allen of Cuba was a distant second in 11.50.

It was one of several easy victories for the favourites

Saturday.

World 800-metre champion Maria Mutola of Mozambique won her 30th consecutive 800-metre race, leading from the break of lanes to beat her nearest rival by 12 metres (yards) in 1:58.27.

There were more points for Africa's men from world record-holders Noureddine Morceli and Moses Kiptanui, both winners by huge margins. Morceli of Algeria won the 1,500 in 3:34.70 and Kiptanui of Kenya the 3,000-metre steeplechase in 8:28.28.

World and Olympic champion Linford Christie, who won the 100 Friday night, anchored the British team to victory in the 1,600 relay in 38.46.

Olympic champion Andrey Abdalagiyev of Tajikistan won the hammer with a throw of 81.72 metres (268 feet-1 inch). Lance Deal of the United States took second.

Yoelvis Quesada of Cuba set a World Cup record in the men's triple jump, winning with a leap of 17.61 metres (57-9 1/2). Vladimir Dubrovshchik of Belarus took the discus at 64.54 (211-9), and Huang Zhihong of China won the women's shot put with a throw of 19.45 (63-9 3/4).

Moonax springs St. Leger shock

DONCASTER, England (AFP) — Veteran jockey Pat Eddery won his third St. Leger, steering 40-1 outsider Moonax to victory in a sensational finish to the world's oldest classic race here Saturday.

The Barry Hills-trained colt was held up in rear during the early stages as 6-1 chance Broadway Flyer — trained by Hills' son John and ridden by another son, Michael — set a blistering pace up front.

Derby disappointment Broadway Flyer looked to have shaken off his rivals as the 15-8 favourite Red Route — who eventually finished seventh — and Michael Stoute's 7-2 second favourite Sacramento, cracked half-way up the home straight.

But Moonax came with a sustained run inside the quarter mile and wore down the leader, forging ahead 100 yards from the line and having a length and a quarter to spare at the finish.

Moonax gave his owner Sheikh Mohammad his second victory in the final English classic of the season, following the success of Oh So Sharp in 1985.

Mark Johnston's Double Trigger, ridden by 20-year-old Jason Weaver, produced a gallant effort to finish third, a further three lengths away.

Returning to the winner's enclosure a delighted Eddery said: "I didn't expect him to win but Barry was quietly confident."

"He's a big horse, very brave and cheeky with it. The instructions were to ride him behind and just pick them up."

"I knew I had a chance when I turned into the straight just behind Sacramento. I thought 'I've got them here'."

"It's exciting because I've come here thinking that I'll ride him to run well and get a place, but I've ended up winning."

Broadway Flyer's trainer John Hills was far from dispondent after the race, saying: "Broadway Flyer ran a tremendous race and if I had to be beaten by anyone, at least it was my father."

Al Hussein crush Al Qadissieh to maintain lead in Jordan Soccer League championship

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Al Hussein Club of Irbid maintained their lead in the first division soccer championship Friday as they thrashed Al Qadissieh 5-1, raising their points in the second week of the championship to four points.

Meanwhile, newcomers Kufri Soom continued their surprising performance as they stunned Shabab Al Hussein 4-2, thus jumping to second place on goal difference over Al Wihdat, which Friday upset champions Al Faisali at Amman International Stadium 1-0.

Kufri Soom's goals were scored by Bilal Obeidat (three goals), and Shaban Yousif. Shabab Al Hussein's goals were scored by Maher Sarsour and Mohamad Fattout.

Al Hussein, which last month won the Federation Shield, their first since they were promoted to the first

division in the 1970s, was unable to score any goal in the first half of the match against Al Qadissieh of Amman, ending the first half scoreless. In the second half, Al Hussein players' perseverance paid off as they scored five goals. These were scored by Aref Hussein (two goals), Ahmad Al Shaqran, Muneeb Gharaibeh and Jamal Nawasrah. Al Qadissieh's only goal was scored by Ismael Al Awadat.

In the long awaited match between the 1993 champions Al Faisali and runners-up Al Wihdat, Al Faisali controlled the first half but was unable to score as its stars Jirjes Tadros, Musa Awad and Jamal Abu Abed squandered several scoring chances.

In the second half, Al Wihdat concentrated their attacks and only 10 minutes from the start their defender Issam Mahmoud managed to score. The match was attended by 20,000

fans, the highest this season, although the match was broadcast live by Jordan Television.

In another match played Friday, Al Ramtha exploited a last minute chance to defeat Al Jeel 2-1 in a match staged in Al Mafraq City. Al Ramtha's

goals were scored by Saleem Thiyabat and Faid Salameh while Al Jeel's goal was scored by Shadi Al Daghastrani. On Thursday in Irbid, Al Jazireh of Amman beat Irbid's Al Arabi 1-0 through a goal scored by Simone George.

Standings after 2nd week

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Hussein	2	2	—	—	9	1	4
Kufri Soom	2	2	—	—	7	4	4
Wihdat	2	2	—	—	2	—	4
Ramtha	2	1	1	—	3	2	3
Ahli	2	1	1	—	2	1	3
Jazireh	2	1	1	—	1	1	2
Jeel	2	—	1	1	2	3	1
Faisali	2	—	1	1	1	2	1
Arabi	2	—	1	1	1	2	1
Shabab Al Hussein	2	—	1	1	3	5	1
Qadissieh	2	—	—	2	3	8	—
Karmel	2	—	—	2	—	5	—

Newcastle beat Chelsea, keep their record intact

LONDON (AFP) — English Premiership leaders Newcastle twice allowed the lead to slip through their hands in their St. James' Park clash with Chelsea before finally winning 4-2.

Chelsea, who had Dennis Wise sent off, could not cope with the Newcastle pressure in the second half to lose their own 100 per cent record.

Andy Cole fired the Georgies in front with his 51st goal in 57 league appearances in the seventh minute, but Gavin Peacock levelled in the 15th minute.

Ruel Fox reclaimed Newcastle's advantage, pouncing to shoot into the empty net after Dimitri Kharine had saved Robert Lee's penalty. Chelsea again battled back and record signing Paul Furlong levelled terms in the 27th minute.

But Cole struck again after the interval and Lee made up for his penalty miss to take Newcastle's tally to 19 goals in five games to stay top of the table.

Liverpool, the only other side in the Premiership with an unbeaten record, failed to breach 10-man West Ham's defence at Anfield as the match finished 0-0.

Alan Shearer, who scored both goals in England's 2-0 midweek win over the United States, again scored twice as Blackburn beat Everton 3-0. Jason Wilcox scored the other goal.

Premiership newcomers Nottingham Forest continued their impressive start to the season with a 4-1 win over Sheffield Wednesday.

Kingsley Black put them ahead and three second half goals from Lars Bohinen.

Stuart Pearce, from the penalty spot, and outstanding Dutch forward Bryan Roy settled the match for Forest.

Wimbledon's clash with struggling Leicester exploded in a flurry of red cards before half-time. Three men were sent off and Wimbledon won 2-1 with an own goal.

Vinnie Jones, in his first game as the Don's captain, was given his marching orders alongside Leicester's David Lowe for fighting in the 34th minute.

Leicester defender Brian Carey followed four minutes later for a challenge on Dean Holdsworth.

Lowe had earlier put Leicester into the lead, only for Mick Harford to bring Wimbledon level in the 29th minute and Leicester's Jim Willis netted an own goal.

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The Special Tender Committee for the National Telecommunication Programme now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of Duct, Buried, Aerial and Tip Cables, in accordance with the capacities, terms, conditions, and technical specifications contained in the Bidding Documents. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect and acquire the bidding documents at the office of:

Secretary of Tender Committee
 TCC Headquarter, Tower Building, Prince Moh'd St.
 Amman - Jordan.

A complete set of bidding Documents in English may be acquired by paying a non-refundable fee of five hundred (500) Jordanian Dinars to the above address as from Sept. 11, 1994.

Bids, accompanied by the Bid security, are to be submitted to the above address, not later than 12:00 a.m. local time on November 16, 1994.

Note (1): The last date for purchasing Bidding Documents is September 24, 1994.

Note (2) All firms purchased Documents of Tender No. 6/94 (Supply of Telephone Cables) are invited to obtain the documents of this (IFB) free of charge.

Director General
 Chairman of Special Tender Committee
 Ahmad Al Nawawi

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 Rent JD 9,750 per year.



JORDAN RETURNS: Former NBA basketball star Michael Jordan (centre) slam-dunks the ball over opponent Corie Blount (left) Friday at Chicago Stadium as teammate Gary Payton (right) looks on during a charity game. Jordan scored 52 points in his first return to basketball since his retirement from the game (AFP photo)

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GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
 & TANIAH HIRSH
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SAVE THOSE HIGH CARDS

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
 ♠ J 9 7
 ♥ A K 6
 ♦ 9 2
 ♣ J 10 4

WEST
 ♠ 2
 ♥ Q 10 8
 ♦ 10 6 3
 ♣ K 9 7 5 3 2

EAST
 ♠ 6 5 3
 ♥ 9 4 3 2
 ♦ K J 8 5
 ♣ A 8

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 10 8 4
 ♥ J 7 5
 ♦ Q 7 4
 ♣ Q 6

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
 4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

Ask the experts what you should lead from three worthless cards in a suit partner has not bid and you are likely to get three different answers. Although the modern trend is to lead low, all will agree that when leading from an honor, including the ten, you should start with the lowest card because you might not be able to spare the high card. West learned the hard way on this deal that there are other reasons as well.

The auction was straightforward.

South's rebid of three spades was invitational and North had enough, both in terms of trump support and high cards, to accept.

Declarer decided West was unlikely to be leading the ten of diamonds away from the king, so declarer grabbed dummy's ace. After drawing trumps in three rounds, ending in hand, declarer led the queen of clubs. West ducked. East won the ace and shifted to a heart. The jack was covered by the queen and taken by the ace and another club forced on the king and set up a club for a heart discard. Eventually, declarer led a diamond toward the queen and lost only two clubs and a diamond.

Suppose the opening lead had been a low diamond. Since going up with the ace would run the risk of losing two diamond tricks when only one need be lost, declarer would surely have played low. Now the defenders would have two ways to defeat the contract. The ace of clubs and another would allow East to ruff away the slow club winner, or a heart shift, followed by another heart, when in with the ace of clubs would set up a heart trick for the defense before South could negotiate a discard.

ANNOUNCEMENT

U.S. foreign service written entrance examination for U.S. citizens only
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Arafat kicks

... ..

Ferrari Hill's F

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Son of the Pink Panther
 The Care Bear
 at 11:00 a.m.

Arafat kicks off Palestinian soccer game against Qatar

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Yasser Arafat showed off his footwork Friday when he kicked off the first Palestinian-Arab soccer match in the Gaza Strip following 27 years of Israeli occupation.

Before the match against Qatar's Al Waqra soccer club, Arafat kicked the ball back and forth with Sheikh Khalifa Al Thani, a member of Qatar's ruling family and president of the club.

The estimated 3,000 spectators loved it. And the day got even better.

The spectators paid 10 shekels (\$3) each, about a quarter of the average daily wage in the impoverished Gaza Strip, to attend the game at Yarmouk Stadium.

Thani blamed his team's poor performance on the sandy field, the absence of six top players and the 36-hour trip to get to the Gaza Strip.

The Palestinians, in yellow and blue, were assembled mainly from residents of the nearby Jabaliya refugee camp.

Despite the win, fan Mohammad Dief said it would be a long time before the Palestinians were capable of competing internationally.

"Our sport is like our economy," he laughed. "It's bad."



Palestinian soccer players of the Jabaliya Qatari team Al Waqra before the start of their refugee camp (left) shake hands with players of match in Gaza Friday (AFP photo)

Ferrari barrier to Hill's F1 title hopes

MONZA, Italy (AFP) — Damon Hill's hopes of capitalising on the enforced absence of world championship leader Michael Schumacher were dashed by Ferrari here Saturday.

The red cars won both positions on the front row of the starting grid for Sunday's Italian Formula One Grand Prix with Hill third fastest in his Williams.

Jean Alesi of France was in pole position alongside Austrian teammate Gerhard Berger.

Hill, who won at Monza last year, was trying to make up the gap of Schumacher who is sitting out a two-race ban. He will start alongside fellow-Briton Johnny Herbert, an unexpected fourth-

fastest in his Lotus. David Coulthard of Britain, racing at Monza for the first time, was fifth-fastest in the other Williams alongside the surprising Olivier Panis of France in a Ligier.

Mika Hakkinen of Finland was seventh-fastest in a modified McLaren who were ordered by motor racing authorities to change their controversial gearbox.

Ferrari have been steadily improving this year and Berger ended a 58-race losing streak for Ferrari at the German Grand Prix in July.

Schumacher, who with 76 points leads the championship by 21 points from Hill, last week lost an appeal against a two-race ban for

disobeying a black flag at the British Grand Prix, and must sit out the Italian and Portuguese races.

On Wednesday his disqualification from victory in Belgium 10 days ago was upheld, a loss of a total of 16 points and a potential 20 more.

Two wins in Italy and Portugal could bring Hill within one point of Schumacher before the last three races of the season.

Finnish driver J.J. Lehto, who has replaced Schumacher in the Benetton team, was on the 10th row.

Lehto has recovered from a broken neck in a testing accident early this year and has driven in only four Grands Prix.

Purefoods dump Alaska to win Philippine title

MANILA (R) — Purefoods used a decisive 17-6 run to close the game to easily beat Alaska Milk 94-79 on Friday and win the Philippine Basketball Association (PBA) second conference championship in Manila.

Purefoods guard Glenn Capacio, who missed a game-tying free throw in the last three seconds of the fourth match and allow Alaska to escape with a victory, fired six straight points in the middle of the run to key the series clinching win.

The Hotdogs won the best-of-seven series 4-1 before a crowd of 12,000 people in Manila.

"The free throw I missed spurred me to play better in this game," Capacio, who scored 21 points, told reporters.

"It was a game that showed who was tougher," Purefoods coach Chot Reyes said.

From a narrow 77-73 lead early in the fourth quarter, the Hotdogs reeled off 11 points with Capacio capping the spurt to stake Purefoods to the biggest lead of the game at 88-75.

"It feels really good. I'm going to go home to the (United) States and try out for the NBA," Kenny Redfield, the American player of Purefoods who won the best import award in the tournament, said.

Alaska grabbed an early eight point lead at the beginning of the game before Purefoods rallied behind 20 first half points by Filipino star Alvin Patrimonio.

Graf and Sanchez Vicario advance to U.S. Open final

NEW YORK (AP) — The world's top two players, Steffi Graf and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, solved the tricky winds at the National Tennis Centre Friday to move into the U.S. Open women's championship match.

Seeking her second Grand Slam title of 1994 and her second straight U.S. Open crown, Graf won the final five games to beat Jana Novotna 6-3, 7-5.

Then Sanchez Vicario, the French Open champion, defeated the 1990 champion, Gabriela Sabatini, 6-1, 7-6 (8-6).

"It was difficult with the wind today to play against Jana," Graf said. "She played exceptionally well, but I was able to squeeze it out in the second set."

Novotna's loss brought back memories of the 1993 Wimbledon final, when, on the verge of winning the title, she also lost the last five games to Graf.

"You can't compare this to Wimbledon," Novotna said. "This is hardcourt. It is different games."

Novotna led early in each set, but Graf raised her game and answered with a service break of her own.

In the opening set, Novotna took a 3-2 lead by breaking Graf's service from deuce. The world's top-ranked player used it as a wakeup call.

She broke her Czech opponent from deuce, held at love, broke from deuce again, then held at 15 to wrap up the first set.

While Novotna was down a set, at least she had earned a moral victory. The set took



Top-seeded Steffi Graf of Germany reacts to winning match point against seventh-seeded Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic Friday during the semifinals of the U.S. Open in New York (AFP photo)

42 minutes to complete: Graf's longest match before Friday was 55 minutes long.

Novotna, her nerves and game under control most of the time, broke Graf's service again in the fourth game of the second set. When Novotna held serve after a long battle, she had a 4-1 advantage 71 minutes after the two had begun play.

Two games later, Novotna had a 5-2 lead and was on the verge of tying the match at one set apiece. She reached double set point at 15-40, but couldn't close it out.

On the men's side, un-

seeded Andre Agassi was to face ninth-seeded Todd Martin and no. 4 Michael Stich was to play Karel Novacek in Saturday's semifinals.

Earlier Friday, Jacco Eltingh and Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands won the men's doubles, defeating Australians Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde 6-3, 7-6 (7-1).

On Thursday, Elna Reinach of South Africa and Patrick Galbraith of Tacoma, Wash., teamed to win the mixed doubles championship, defeating Novotna and Woodbridge 6-2, 6-4.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PIONEER TEAM.

A group of Jordanian Samsung dealers visit Samsung-Korea.



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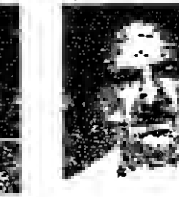
Mustafa SABBAGH



Ahmad AL-AESI



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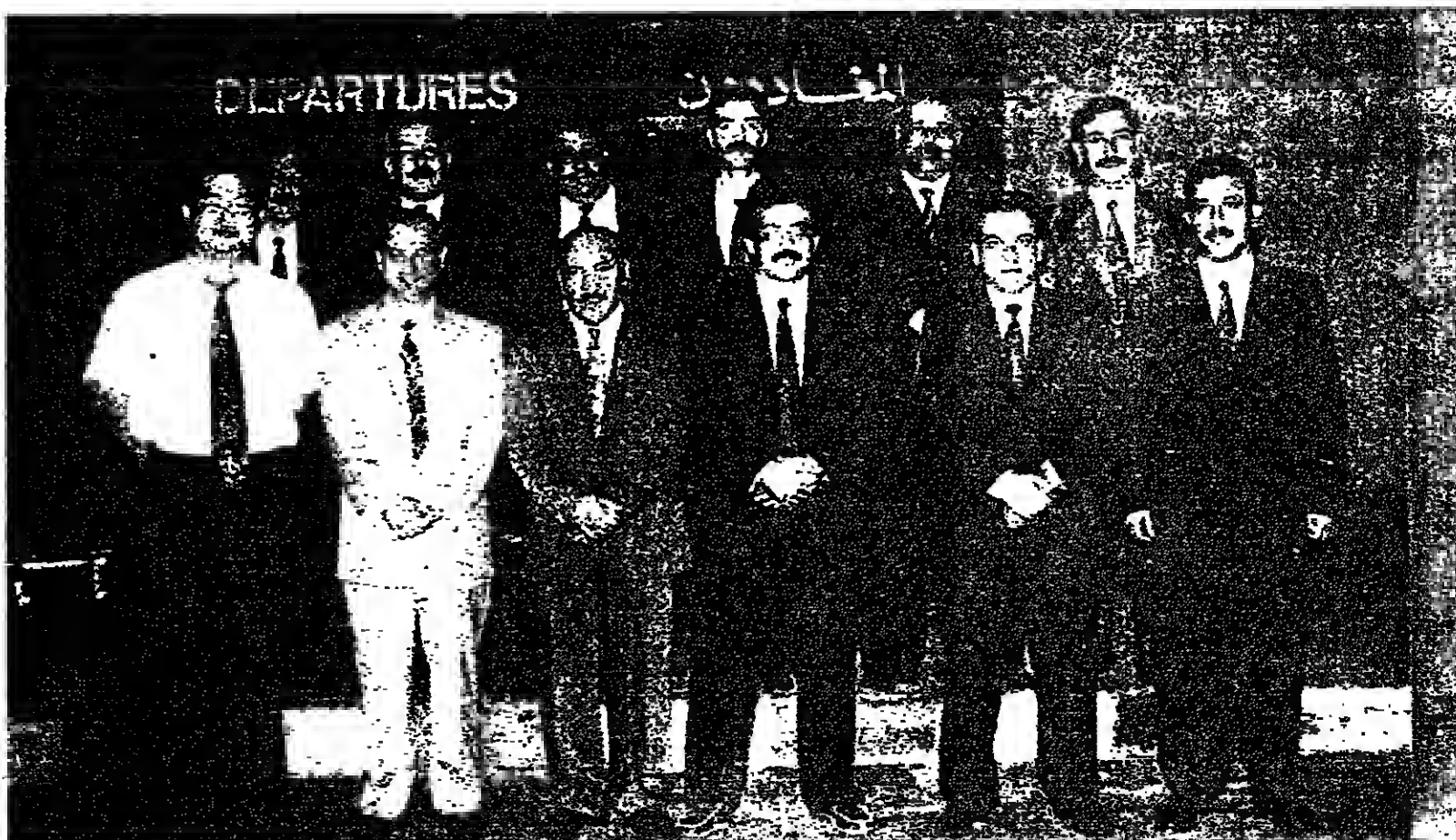
Wael Al-SALIH



Abdel Razzaq Abu SALEM

Samsung Electronics has invited a group of its Jordanian dealers to visit Korea between September 9-16, 1994. The dealers will be taken on an orientation tour throughout the Samsung factories in Seoul in order to get a better understanding of and feel for the Samsung products. The week-long trip will also include visits to prominent Korean landmarks and tourist attractions.

This trip marks the first of its kind among electronics dealers in Jordan and will continue to be an annual Samsung activity to those who merit it according to sales performance.



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	Son of the Pink Panther Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 Every Friday and Sunday The Care Bears at 11:00 a.m.		Nadia Al Jundi in SPY HIKMAT FANMI Shows: 10:30, 8:30, 6:30, 3:30, 12:30		CONCORD 1 THE PELICAN BRIEF Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 CONCORD 2 MISS. DOWNTOWN Shows: 3:30, 5:30 Presents the play: MA HUA AL-SAMH YA ELEWA (It is the truth Elewa) Acting by: Nabil Shaban, Amr Khalil, Nouran Abdel Karim, Youssef Youssef and Shaker Jabbar. Curtains open at 8:30 p.m.		Presents the political comedy: Legal Evening Entertainment Starring: Abeer Issa, Daoud Jalajel, Hassan Al Shaer and Mahmoud Abu Gharib. For reservation call tel.: 618274 - 618275		Today & Everyday Abu Amr in social comedy "PUNCTURED BAG"	Presents: The political satire: Al Salam Ya Salam Daily at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday is the theatre's holiday

Iraq, Russia sign \$10b trade and industry deal

Aziz heads for Security Council talks

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Baghdad and Moscow have signed a \$10 billion deal on trade and industrial and oil projects in Iraq by Russian firms, official newspapers said on Saturday.

They said Russia was keen to resume its once lucrative trade with Baghdad.

The deal was signed by Iraqi Trade Minister Mohammad Mehdi Saleh, who ended a visit to Moscow on Friday. He led a delegation of senior officials from various ministries.

The papers quoted Russian Foreign Economic Relations Minister Oleg Davydov as saying his country would start implementing the deal immediately.

"There is nothing that bars the exchange of bilateral trade as Russia is exporting some equipment to Iraq, including combine harvesters," Mr. Davydov said.

Mr. Saleh said the deal was first step to expand bilateral ties, ruptured by U.N. trade sanctions imposed because of Iraq's 1990-91 occupation of Kuwait.

Iraq hopes Russia's sympathy and willingness to revive trade will help its case at the U.N. Security Council, which is due to review the sanctions by mid-September.

The Iraqi News Agency said the agreement with Russia covered industry and oil projects, but did not go into detail.

It quoted Mr. Saleh as saying he hoped for a return to normal economic relations between the two countries and said Mr. Davydov praised Iraq's commitment to

fulfill its financial obligations despite the U.N. embargo's crippling of its economy.

The sanctions, which allow only imports of humanitarian items, have stripped Iraq of its main revenue earner — oil exports — and triggered rampant inflation.

Iraq has a \$7 billion debt to Russia from when Moscow was one of its main trading partners and principle weapons suppliers before the sanctions were imposed in 1990.

Russia is one of several Security Council members who have recently advocated a softer line in dealing with Baghdad, in recognition of its stepped-up compliance with U.N. conditions for the lifting of sanctions.

The reported trade deal was the result of five days of talks in Moscow.

On Monday, Russia's interfax news agency said negotiations envisaged Baghdad paying in both oil and hard currency for Russian help in building steel, methanol and other industrial facilities.

Earlier this summer, a group of Russian oil companies began talks with Iraqi officials which could lead to contracts worth up to \$2.5 billion to rebuild Iraq's war-ravaged oil industry.

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz left Amman Saturday for New York to press for an end to the U.N. embargo.

Iraqi embassy spokesman in Amman, Adel Ibrahim said Mr. Aziz would attend the Sept. 18 Security Council session scheduled to review the embargo.

He will also meet U.N. officials and foreign diplomats "to see what is impeding an end to the sanctions against Iraq," Mr. Ibrahim told the Associated Press.

Mr. Aziz, who arrived in Amman late Friday night, left Amman aboard a Royal Jordanian flight. There are no commercial flights out of Baghdad due to the U.N. sanctions.

Iraq says the sanctions are no longer justified since it has complied with most terms of a U.N. cease-fire agreement that ended the 1991 Gulf war.

The key terms stipulate the elimination of Baghdad's weapons of mass destruction and the establishment by U.N. technical experts of a monitoring programme to ensure Iraq does not try to rebuild or reacquire such weapons by clandestine means.

Once the system is working effectively — experts estimate six months after it is put into operation — the Security Council will decide whether to lift the part of the embargo which bans oil exports, Iraq's economic mainstay.

Security Council permanent members France, Russia and China would like to see the oil embargo lifted in the near future.

The United States and Britain, the other permanent members, oppose any relaxation until Iraq adheres to all U.N. conditions such as renouncing the U.N.-demarcated border with Kuwait and improving its human rights record.



PROTESTS IN DHAKA: Police drag arrested protesters on Saturday after an opposition demonstration in

Dhaka, Bangladesh, demanding elections under a non-partisan interim administration (AFP photo)

Rights of migrants, refugees in focus at conference on population, development

From Mariam M. Shakin in Cairo

A JUBILANT Nafis Sadiq, secretary-general of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), announced Saturday that "there was a consensus" and the "abortion issue has now been dealt with" to a crowd of several thousand clapping women. The announcement also drew praise from women who had come to speak and lobby for changes on more wide-ranging issues on population and development.

"We salute Dr. Sadiq for her courage and her resolve to bring women's issues to the forefront. As a woman from the South, as a woman from an Islamic nation, she has faced threats to her life and she has stood steadfast. In her we have found a world leader for women," Susan Davis, an American who heads Women's Environment and Development Organisation in New York, told the audience.

The conclusion of the debate on the abortion clause in the Cairo document allowed for discussion on more wide-ranging issues in the general assembly. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and representatives of developing nations say that one of the most important of the remaining points of discussion are family reunification rights and the rights of migrant workers and refugees.

The ICPD's main committee said last week that most of the issues relating to migration had been agreed upon. But one of the main issues relating to family reunification of migrants was still opposed by countries in the European Community which argue that allowing families to join migrant workers would increase the migra-

tions from South to North that the European Community has been trying to limit.

In response to the "fortress Europe" mentality — as the opposition of immigration to Europe has been called — the Cairo document calls on governments to "take effective action to eliminate all forms of coercion and discrimination in policies and practices related to marriage, unions and the family."

Members of the Council of Europe, who are lobbying to have some of the restrictions on reunification of migrant workers removed, says that the 32-member council was working towards removing fears in Europe. "We want to make it clear to Europe that the South is not invading the North as many of them fear. The southern migrants mainly move within the South and Europe has just a small portion of that migration," said a council delegate.

Chapter 10 of the Cairo document — "International Migration" — addresses the rights of migrants, both documented and undocumented, as well as refugees, asylum seekers and displaced persons. Up to 1993 there were 19 million documented refugees worldwide. The Cairo document and special lobby groups aim to assure equal health and educational services to the displaced communities as a short-term goal and the elimination of the causes that create the uprooting of populations as long-term goals.

Chapters five and 10 would address the health and educational woes of migrant communities in Europe and refugee communities worldwide by attempting to entice governments to provide the same health and educational provisions to the migrant and

refugee populations as it does to its citizens.

"This includes addressing the situation in areas of conflict such as former Yugoslavia, the situation of Palestinian refugees in places like Lebanon and the problems of the Kurdish populations amongst many others," said Swiss Parliamentarian Leni Robert, who prepared the Council of Europe report on migration for the conference.

The International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres (IFS), an association of national, regional and local non-profit service organisations, which is accredited to the U.N. Economic and Social Council, is by far the strongest of more than a dozen lobby groups pressing for rights of migrants and refugees.

Last week the IFS presented the general assembly of the conference with a list of suggested changes and alterations. If passed the section on migrants and refugees could give impetus to a change in the status of both groups.

"We find one serious omission (with regards) to migration," states the IFS document submitted to the Cairo conference.

Pressing for the right of migrants to a place in the workforce the IFS document states: "We would like to see some reorientation of (the document) to the human needs of the various types of displaced individuals who are treated more as victims of the economy than as participants. The emphasis on finding the causes of displacement results in downplaying the measures needed to make the movements of peoples economically productive and responsive to human needs. A

small example of this larger problem is the absence of the need to provide suitable housing or to enable the migrants to define their own needs and to participate in solving their problems."

One of the most controversial suggestions made by the IFS is likely to be voted down. It deals with representation and self-determination rights in the communities where refugees find themselves. A sentence might be added providing for the "inclusion of representatives of migrants and/or refugees in machinery developed to analyse both the causes of displacement and possible amelioration of the conditions involved."

"We would like to see an additional paragraph added to the objectives which would call attention to the human side of migration and indicate that one objective is to enable migrants to participate directly in the determination as to whether they remain in the country of initial destination or move to another country, or return to their country of origin," the IFS document said.

If applied to the Palestine refugee issue the last of the IFS proposals would be, yet another affirmation of the "right of return."

"While we support the proposals dealing with refugees, we urge that they be strengthened by the addition of some more specific measures calling for implementation within specific time limits, and developed in cooperation with non-governmental agencies which could be delegated to carry out and or supervise their implementation," concluded the IFS list of suggestions, which were debated Saturday at the population conference.

EU ministers agree to ease Serbia sanctions

USEDOM, Germany (Agencies) — European Union (EU) foreign ministers agreed on Saturday to ease sanctions against Serbia to reward Belgrade for having cut support to the Serbs fighting in Bosnia, sources close to the ministers said.

A reliable source said that the 12 ministers "endorsed in principle" the conclusions of the so-called contact group (Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States) which met for two days earlier this week in Berlin.

The first of these conclusions was, the diplomat told journalists, that the "changed attitude" of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic "should be taken into account and should be responded to in an appropriate manner."

This was taken to mean that the ministers, who were meeting in an informal closed doors session, agreed sanctions should be eased.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaly Churkin said Wednesday after attending the contact group meeting that, in response to Mr. Milosevic's move, the group would be recommending to

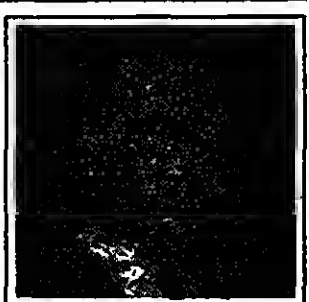
the U.N. Security Council that it consider easing sanctions to the U.N. Security Council that it consider easing sanctions against Serbia.

A second contact group conclusion, endorsed by the ministers, in the course of a long lunch in this German Baltic seaside resort, was that the border between Serbia and the Bosnian Serbs' territory must stay closed and that "a degree of control" be exercised over it, the diplomat said.

The 12 agreed that no more weapons should be allowed to reach the Bosnian Serbs and that there must be an end to "ethnic cleansing," he added.

The ministers also discussed the situation in Bihać, northwest Bosnia-Herzegovina, which they agreed was "very serious" and "should be kept under further control and supervision," the diplomat continued.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe at the same meeting came out against any lifting of the arms embargo on the Bosnian Muslims.



Subhi Amr laid to rest

AMMAN (J.T.) — Subhi Amr, a former minister and senator, was laid to rest Saturday at Sahab cemetery in Amman.

Amr passed away Friday of a heart attack at the age of 80. He is survived by three sons: Sami, Ya'coub and Ihsan.

During the 1950s and 60s Amr was appointed several times as minister of health. Also, during the 1960s he served as minister of development and reconstruction.

Dr. Amr was from the West Bank town of Dura near Hebron.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Saturday visited the residence of the Amr family and expressed condolences on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein.

Perceived Saudi role in Yemeni war deepens chasm in ties

By P. V. Vivekanand

CHANCES FOR Yemeni-Saudi reconciliation have been seriously set back by alleged Saudi support for southern secessionists in the Yemeni civil war and reports of Riyadh funding Yemeni exiles to undergo military training in Saudi territory, diplomats and Yemenis say.

However, officials of the Sanaa government play down the issue and express optimism that ties with Yemen's giant eastern neighbour could be on the mend after a strain of more than four years.

"There are indications that relations could be improved," said Planning Minister Abdul Karim Iryani. "But I cannot tell you there is a breakthrough."

"As far as Yemen is concerned, there are no psychological, political or practical barriers to normalisation of relations with its neighbours," Dr. Iryani told the Jordan Times. "It is up to the others to decide how they want their relationship with Yemen."

While that is the official position, the man on the Yemeni street feels differently. Perceived Saudi

backing for the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), the dominant group that led the May 4-July 7 secessionist war, against the backdrop of a strain in relations sparked by Yemeni sympathy for Iraq during the Gulf crisis of 1990-91 have deeply angered them.

"We already have enough troubles without Saudi Arabia meddling in our internal affairs," said Wa'ad Othman, a grocer in Sanaa. "It would seem that they have the money, but nothing else to do but create trouble all over."

Yemenis are proud of their democracy and believe that Saudi Arabia's role in the secessionist war was prompted by a desire to thwart united Yemen emerging as a strong democratic country in what the Saudis considered as their backyard.

For many Yemenis, it is an established fact that Saudi Arabia settled the bills for arms supplied by Egypt the secessionists, sent battle tanks to the south and also paid for "mercenaries" to fly Russian fighter/bombers against government forces during the civil war.

Both Saudi Arabia and Egypt as well as Russia

have officially denied the charges, but many in Sanaa take little heed of those protestations.

Khaled Shreeti, a university student from Taiz in central Yemen, described the victory of the government forces in the war as a slap in the face of Saudi Arabia, but warned that Riyadh might be planning revenge.

"I don't think they would forget about the whole thing and start a new page in relationship now that the war is over," said Mr. Shreeti as he chewed the traditional Yemeni qat in a downtown Sanaa shop selling electronic goods.

"They will try to get back at Yemen and this could mean not only a battle on the diplomatic front but also military support for a revived war," he said.

Mr. Shreeti and many others cite reports that young men from the south were sneaking across the Gulf of Aden to Djibouti, where they are allegedly picked up by YSP exiles and sent to military training camps in Saudi Arabia.

"Why should the Saudis finance such activities?" asked Fouad Louai, a bank clerk in Sanaa. "Definitely they want to rebuild the

southern forces and relaunch the war sometime soon."

Aden residents confirmed that many of their youth had left the country for Djibouti, but few knew anything about the alleged military training camps in Saudi Arabia.

"We have also heard of it, but don't know of anyone actually being taken to training camps," said Layla, an Aden school teacher. "But there is a marked decline in the number of students attending high school exams," which started in late August, she said.

Many Yemenis blindly believe reports that Saudi Arabia sent more than 60 battle tanks across the border to southern Yemen and paid for hiring 30 Russians MIG-29 fighter jets which attacked government positions during the war.

"The tanks were driven by highly paid Asian drivers," said a university professor in Sanaa. "They were intercepted by the government forces after a tip-off."

Many say that the "tip-offs" over the tanks and Egyptian ships carrying arms for the south came from the U.S., which is

seen as anxious to avoid instability in the Arabian Peninsula.

Saudi-Yemeni relations have been on the rocks since August 1990 when Yemenis openly expressed support for Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait and opposed a military option to end the crisis. Yemen, then a member of the U.N. Security Council, also opposed a council resolution endorsing a forced eviction of Iraq from Kuwait.

In retaliation, Saudi Arabia sent some nearly one million Yemeni expatriates and shut off all economic aid to its neighbour, often described as the most impoverished country in the Arabian Peninsula.

Since then, repeated Yemeni efforts to reconcile with Saudi Arabia have not borne fruit. A dispute over ownership of a border area believed to be rich in oil had complicated the situation even before the civil war cast serious doubts over Sanaa-Riyadh reconciliation.

Saudi-Yemeni borders were never defined — another legacy that the British colonial power left behind as it withdrew from its last bastion in the Ara-

bian Peninsula in 1967. The unsettled borders were an irritant but not a major cause of tension between the neighbours until the recent strain in relations.

Indeed, for many Yemenis, the Saudi claim to the disputed border area is another source of anger.

"The Saudis already have enough oil while Yemen does not," said Mr. Louai, the bank clerk. "Obviously they do not want Yemen to be economically stable."

"But that does not justify their refusal to accept Yemen's territorial rights and there will be hell to pay if they continue to do so," he warned.

Diplomats say army officers, buoyed by their victory in the civil war, reflect such sentiments. "Many officers say that they are willing to go to war with Saudi Arabia if the Saudis deny Yemen its territory," said a North African diplomat.

But the government, anxious to mend fences with Saudi Arabia, believes the issue could be settled through diplomatic means. Delegations from both sides have met a few times, but little actual progress has been achieved. Howev-

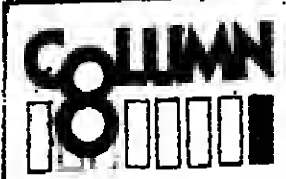
er, Dr. Iryani is one of those who are convinced that both sides want a negotiated settlement.

"Border problems should not be ignored or played down," said Dr. Iryani. "It is in the interest of Yemen and Saudi Arabia to have a firm agreement on the question of borders between them."

Dr. Iryani, a leading moderate force in the Yemeni government and close to President Ali Abdullah Saleh, believes that co-lesser border demarcation is carried out, "the relationship will fluctuate as a result of friction over undefined borders."

"I am sure that Saudi Arabia and Yemen do consider the resolution of this issue a high priority under normal condition of relations," he said. "Both should commit themselves to definitely and finally reaching an agreement. An honest commitment to reaching an agreement is very essential for a stable, neighbourly relationship."

The writer, a member of the Jordan Times Staff, has just returned after a visit to the Republic of Yemen.



Top Thai police fired in Saudi gems scandal

BANGKOK (R) — Two top Thai policemen have been fired and will be charged in connection with a long-running scandal involving stolen Saudi jewellery, the Deputy Interior Minister said Saturday. Lieutenant-General Chalor Kerdthies and Sophon Sawikamin were sacked late Friday because of what an Interior Ministry order called "untrustworthy conduct" that may obstruct investigations into the case and damage the state. Deputy Interior Minister Den Tohmene said he expected formal charges "very soon" against the pair.

He said other police held as suspects had implicated them in the case, involving the theft of \$20 million worth of gems from a Saudi palace and the mysterious death of a gem trader's wife and son.

The minister said the suspects had reported that the generals gave the orders that led to the abduction of the wife and son of the gem trader, who is a key state witness in the case. Police Friday filed charges against two other policemen — Lieutenant-Colonel Pansak Mongkolsiri and Sub-Lieutenant Yong Nakram — over the abduction and illegal detention of Sarawadi Sithanakhon and her 14-year-old son Seri. She and her son were found dead in their car on a road north of Bangkok on Aug. 2. The cause of their deaths is still under investigation but most police officers are treating it as murder. Police said Lt. Yong had confessed that he was involved in the abduction and killings and implicated his former boss Lt. Col. Pansak and the two police generals. Ms. Sarawadi's jewellery trader husband, Santi, is alleged to have bought some of the \$20 million worth of jewellery stolen from a Saudi palace in 1989 by a Thai servant employed there. The servant fled back to Thailand with the baul and was tracked down and arrested in early 1990, but much of the jewellery eventually returned to Saudi Arabia was fake.

Indian court stays screening of Bandit Queen

NEW DELHI (AFP) — An Indian court Friday stayed until Sept. 28 the screening of a highly-acclaimed movie based on the life of former Bandit Queen Phoolan Devi, who says the production violates her privacy. Justice Virender Jain ordered producer S.S. Bedi to band over the original version of the film, Bandit Queen, to enable the Delhi High Court to consider a request by Mr. Devi to ban the movie. Ms. Devi Tuesday sued the makers of the film, saying they had violated her right to privacy. She also sought damages which a lawyer said could run into millions of rupees. Judge Jain asked Mr. Bedi, director Shekhar Kapur, author Mala Sen, whose book about Ms. Devi was the basis for the screenplay, and Britain's Channel 4 Television, which commissioned the movie, to file their replies within a week. Mr. Devi sought sanctuary in the Chambal ravines, the heartland of banditry in northern India, after allegedly gunning down 22 men to avenge her gang rape and the murder of her paramour by upper-caste Hindus.

Paper names officials in Vietnam scandal

HANOI (AFP) — A Vietnamese newspaper has named seven top provincial officials caught with prostitutes in their hotel rooms during a holiday in the resort of Vung Tan in the first such case to be publicised here. The seven officials from Kien Giang province included two from the Communist Party and the Fatherland Front, a party umbrella organisation for social organisations and religions, the Tuoi Tre newspaper said. The newspaper said the officials were caught during a police raid after taking prostitutes to their rooms at the southern resort town, which has become notorious for its sex industry. Vung Tan police sent a notice to the authorities in Kien Giang giving the names of the officials, who included a senior figure from the provincial People's Committee or local government.